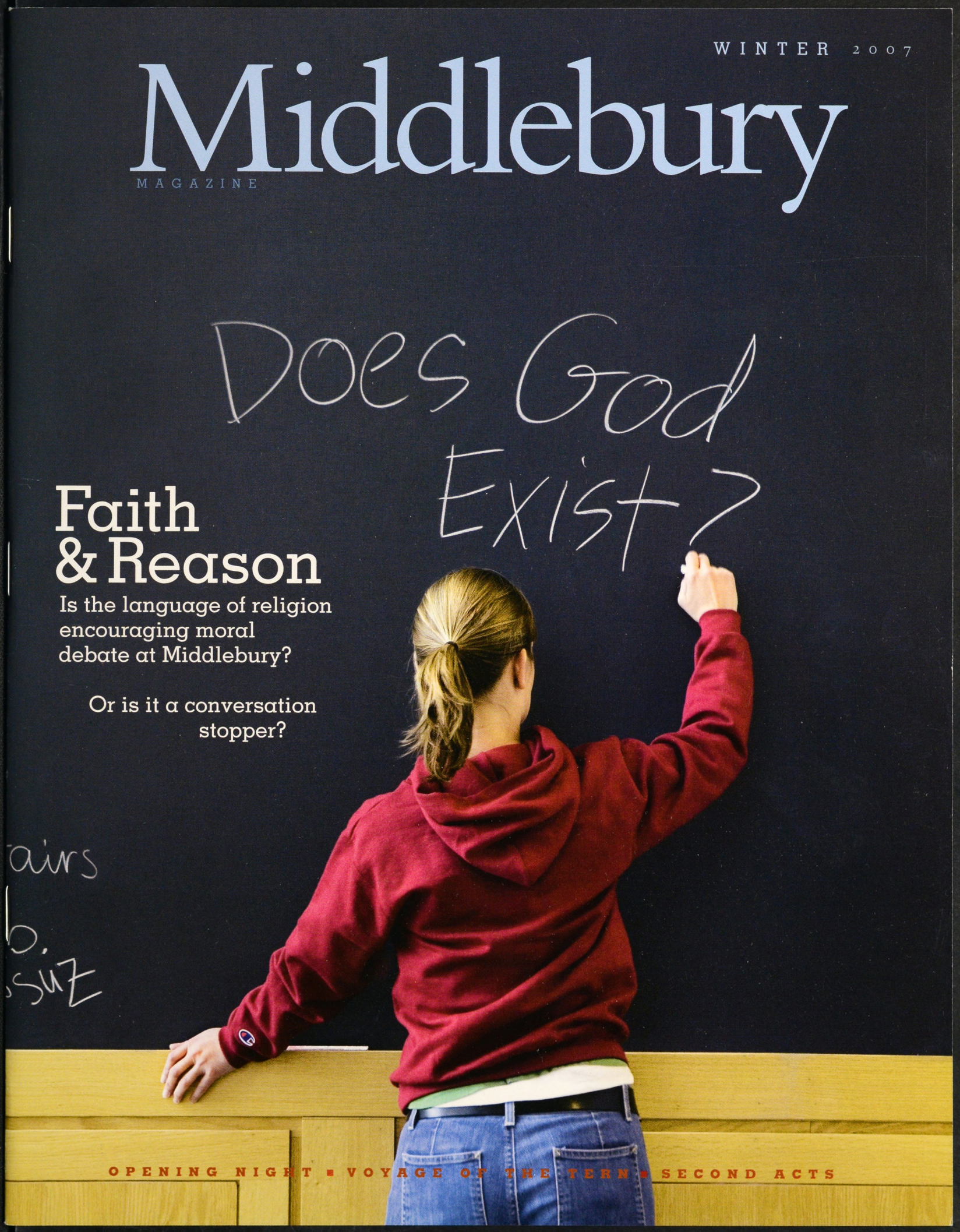
WINTER 2007

Middlebury

MAGAZINE



Faith & Reason

Is the language of religion encouraging moral debate at Middlebury?

Or is it a conversation stopper?

OPENING NIGHT ■ VOYAGE OF THE TERN ■ SECOND ACTS

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Cover by Dennis Curran
Contents and inset photograph by Bridget Besaw

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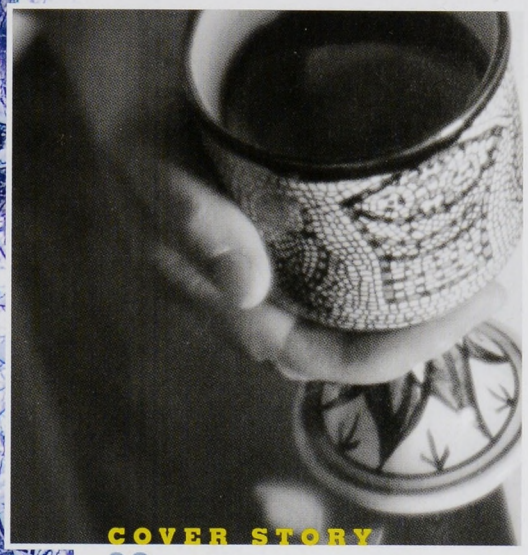

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Spiritual DNA

Recalling faith and family and its impact on one's life.

My grandmother passed away recently at the age of 94. I write about it here because lately I've been thinking a lot about Rose Rudin Adams, the life she led, the choices she made, and the impact it had on my life.

In 1939, Rose, then a registered nurse at Wyckoff Heights Hospital in Brooklyn, met Dr. Vincent Adams, a young cardiologist fresh out of Georgetown Medical School and an intern at Wyckoff. Actually, as the story goes, Vincent spied Rose at a candy store around the corner from the hospital and remarked to a colleague that he was going to ask her out. Easier said than done. Rose ignored Vincent that afternoon—nurses didn't fraternize with doctors in those days—and continued to do so for several weeks. However, Vincent was persistent, and romance eventually blossomed, but still their courtship was conducted in secret. Professional mores may have had something to do with the secrecy, but so too did religious strictures of the time. Vincent was Roman Catholic; Rose was Jewish.

In the summer of 1940, they got married, though many in Rose's family did not attend the wedding. Rose and Vincent raised a family—two boys and a girl (my mother)—in Forest Hills, Queens, and while Rose attended temple without Vincent, and Vincent attended Mass without Rose, they taught their children to learn about and appreciate both faiths, Judaism and Catholicism.

Growing up in Virginia, I benefited from this religious pluralism. My sister and I were baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal Church (my father's church). We also celebrated Passover each spring, unpacked a menorah along with our Christmas ornaments in December, and wished one another a happy New Year each fall.

I never talked to my grandmother about her faith, though I always received a card at Rosh Hashanah—along with a card at the start of Hanukkah, followed by Christmas presents a few weeks later. I'd like to think she enjoyed the fact that my family attended Passover Seders as well as Easter church services, but more than anything, I'd guess that she thought this was, well, normal. (My mom used to put dreidels and chocolate Hanukkah geld in our stockings each Christmas, which makes me laugh now, but seemed perfectly normal at the time.)

When my grandfather died 12 years ago, Rose remarked to the priest after the funeral: "That's the loveliest homily I've ever heard, though I haven't heard many." (As far as I know, it was the first and only time she attended a Catholic service.) It was an intensely sad day, but this made me smile, not just because the moment was the perfect illustration of my grandmother's acute sense of humor, but because, in one sentence, Rose spoke to the spiritual DNA I had inherited.

I haven't attended a Passover Seder in many years; nor, for that matter, have I been a regular churchgoer. Yet as I researched this issue's cover story, I found myself thinking more and more about this spiritual DNA. This past Christmas I was visiting my parents in Virginia, and one morning I began rummaging through the desk in my old room. I came across a stack of greeting cards I had accumulated over the years—"Happy 17th birthday!"—and was quickly flipping through them, when one gave me pause. It was more than 15 years old (September 1990), and the inscribed greeting wished me a happy New Year. It was a Rosh Hashanah card from Rose. —*MJ*

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Photograph of Matt Jennings by Bob Handelman

Cutting the Cord

THE COVER OF THE FALL 2006 *Middlebury Magazine* reminded me of the perfect gift my friend Chip received on his 18th birthday. He and I were working at a summer camp when he turned 18. On his birthday, he had the usual cake and ice cream. His mother (who worked there as an assistant director) presented Chip with a small box, wrapped in masculine paper. He opened it to find two long, narrow strips of patterned cloth tied in a neat bow. The symbolism of his mother giving him neatly cut apron strings has stayed with me for almost 50 years. That revealed a special relationship between Chip and his parents. More parents should develop that kind of relationship and cut the apron strings, the earlier the better.

David J. Bahn '62
Jacksonville, Florida

How Close?

AS A RETIRED SECONDARY SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER, I'm aware of a gradual escalation in parental participation in the writing and proofreading of high school papers. In order to receive written work created by our students without assistance from either the Internet or a family member, some of us increased the amount and weighting of in-class writing. But conversations with former students and parents of college students suggest that parental collaboration on papers and projects, all made possible by the magic of e-mail, continues unabated at the college level.

Back in the dark ages of the late 1950s, my friends and I never even conceived the possibility of such collaboration. Given our habit of last-minute writing, we would have had no way to send drafts back and forth anyway. But leaving that detail aside, our newfound independence and academic machismo would never, ever permit us to write home for that kind of help (financial, yes; scholarly, no).

And even in the late 1980s, my own son and daughter would never have stooped to such an exchange, despite Dad's academic credentials.

I'm curious whether Elena Kennedy '06 or Barbara Hofer has investigated this aspect of family ties at Middlebury; if so, how widespread do they feel the practice has become? I won't take a moral position in this letter beyond suggesting that parents who help work on their daughters' and sons' projects should certainly add their own names to the work.

Dutton Foster, M.A. English '68
Saint Paul, Minnesota

ALL TIED UP
The fall cover story on the ties between parents and their college-age children sparked remembrances and further questions.

True Value

THANK YOU FOR THE ARTICLE on the cost and value of a Middlebury education ("The $44,000 Question," fall 2006). One way of reducing cost would be to have students do more campus service work in exchange for reduced tuitions. Students now work in food services and other areas, but more could work in places like the athletic equipment room (see "Life in the ER" in the same issue). An extensive student work program could lower College labor costs and thus ease the tuition burden. Such a program might promote a stronger community ethos, which also has potential for reducing College prices.

A strong community ethic would foster sharing and cooperation, which could reduce College costs by promoting more efficient use of books, computers, and other resources. Middlebury scholar-in-residence Bill McKibben in recent issues of *The New York Review of Books* and *Sierra Magazine* has attributed today's "hyper-individualism" to our fossil fuels technology, which makes us independent of neighbors and community and requires ever-greater expense to maintain. The implication of that analysis is that we need more cooperative social structures if we are to free ourselves of the immense expenses of fossil fuel dependence. The point applies, as well, to lessening college costs. Cooperation presents opportunities for efficiencies and savings needed to lower college expenses. And teaching kids

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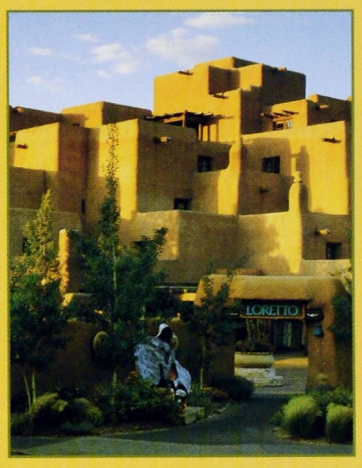

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how to work together for the common good gives them one more way of contributing to society, enriching their own lives, and deepening the value of their educations.

It is true that one cannot measure the value of a liberal education in widening the spirit, stimulating interests, or sharpening curiosity. But colleges can measure how well faculties promote student writing skills, improve speed and span of their intellectual grasps, and sharpen their abilities to analyze and synthesize. The Collegiate Learning Assessment and the National Survey of Student Engagement are two testing programs that indicate how well students learn essential thinking techniques. Middlebury should have its students participate in these. While testing can determine neither value nor personal merit, aggregated test results can show where skills are strong or weak and point to areas for improving teaching. If a liberal education includes development of a thinking mind, evaluation of student thinking skills and actions for improving teaching based upon evaluation will add value to that education.

Dave Corkran '57
Portland, Oregon

Don't Diss the Midd Music Scene!

My name is Ted Parker '08. I am the president of the Middlebury Musicians' Guild (MMG), which for two years has been striving (quite successfully, thus far) to represent the interests of musicians on campus. I have read Bob Gulla's article in the fall 2006 issue entitled "Dispatch Is Dead! Long Live Dispatch!" and I respectfully must take issue with Mr. Gulla's treatment of the music scene at Middlebury—specifically: "With apologies to the D8 and the Mischords, Middlebury is hardly a musical hotbed." On the contrary, I believe that a look at the activities of the MMG over the past two years, and the huge amount of musical activity on campus this semester, demonstrates quite the opposite of Mr. Gulla's assertion.

Most notably, in January the MMG opened a humble recording facility in the Freeman International Center, filling (at least partially) a previously gaping hole in the musical community at Midd. Students have already produced a number of recordings, and many more are on the way. Furthermore, the MMG has collaborated with the Dean of the College's office and the music department to create the weekly TGIF Music Series in the library atrium, highlighting on-campus talent, in addition to a new weekly series of MMG shows by student performers at the Grille. It is my understanding that Middlebury has always had a slew of talented musicians—Philip Hamilton '82 comes to mind as a dynamic performer whose time at Midd would have coincided with Mr. Gulla's—and rather than invigorating a dead music scene, the MMG is bringing Middlebury's musicians the attention they have long deserved. The payoff is that we've seen an explosion of new music groups on campus in the past semester, which are happily devouring all of these new opportunities.

Rather than treating Dispatch like an anomaly, I believe strongly that we must

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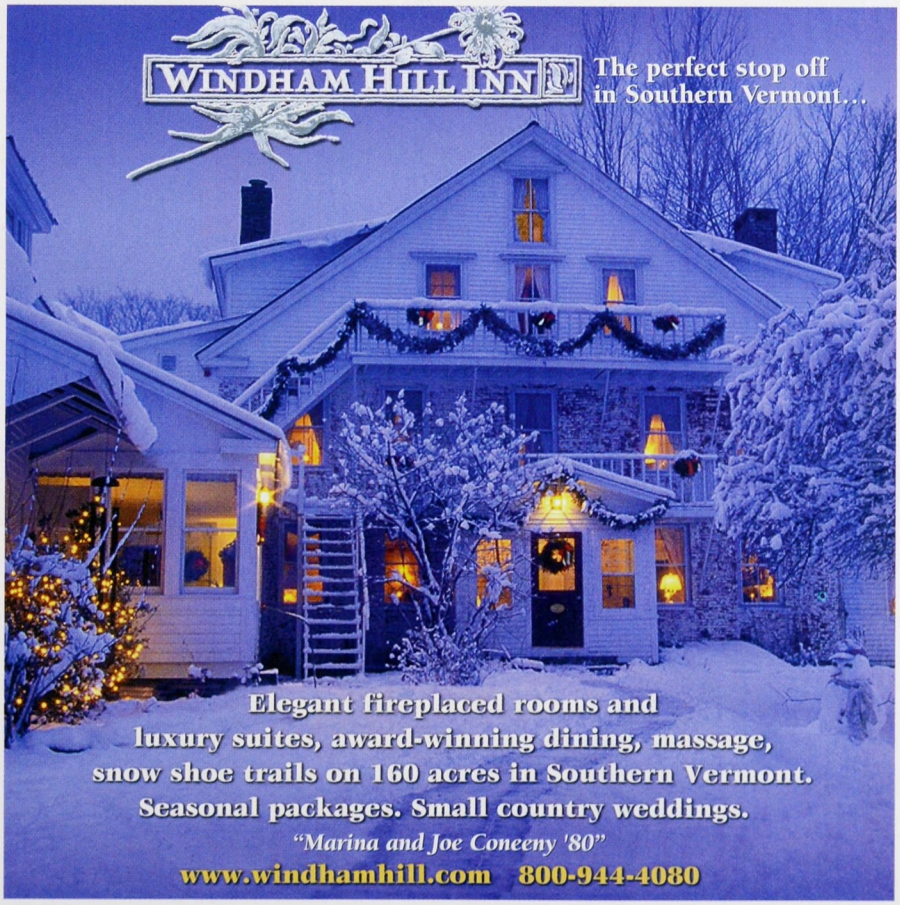
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continue to encourage musicians at Middlebury, with Dispatch's success as a prime example of the rewards that can follow hard work and dedication. A recording studio, in particular, is something for which Middlebury's musicians had petitioned for decades. We are very proud of our facility, but it is indeed humble—suited only to small-scale, amateur-quality projects. Alumni should know that their support could do much to promote this project, and perhaps encourage lightning to strike a few more times at Midd.

Ted Parker '08
Middlebury, Vermont

Who Was First?

In reference to the article titled "Safi's Choice" in the fall issue of the magazine: The author refers to Zohra Safi as "the first female student from Afghanistan to attend Middlebury." There has been at least one other that I know of. She was a member of the class of '72, and her name was Rona Kayeum. I'm not sure where she went from Middlebury or when. I don't believe the class secretaries know her address either, nor has Rona been heard from in a long time. I seem to recall that her father was the interior minister for Afghanistan—no doubt in the 1960s. Rona was a lovely, quiet, gentle person. I hope she's well and happy, wherever she is today.

Tom Chesrown '72
Chicago, Illinois

Editors' Note: Mr. Chesrown is correct. Rona Kayeum '72 was the first female student from Afghanistan to attend Middlebury. We apologize for the error.

Then and Now

In the fall 2006 issue of *Middlebury Magazine*, I read the fact that Middlebury was recognized as one of the best campuses for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered students. As a student at Middlebury in the mid-1980s, I started to come to terms with my differences in what felt at the time to be a very scary place. My first year, I befriended a gay man who feared for his life because of the bullying that was unofficially tolerat-

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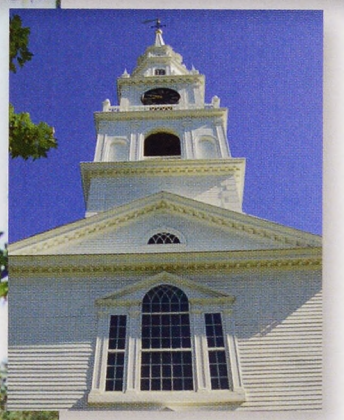

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ed. He chose to leave Middlebury because there seemed to be no alternative. At that time, there were no out lesbians, no role models—certainly not anyone who could be seen as publicly supportive.

I came from a religious family when I was growing up never even hearing the word "lesbian." I did feel very fortunate while at Middlebury to be able to go to a counselor where I could talk freely, but it took me years to come to terms with being different.

Today, I live in Canada. I feel a great sense of gratitude that I live in a country that recognizes me as an intelligent human being, capable of choosing the person I want to marry.

Middlebury College has since become more open to diversity both visible and invisible. It is my hope that students at Middlebury today no longer have to feel fear for being who they are, one of God's children.

Lisa Van Buren '90
Ottawa, Ontario

Happy Trails

I just read Jay Heinrichs's wonderful story "Walking George to School" (fall 2006), which instantly took me back to my days with the Middlebury Mountain Club and our time spent hiking the Long Trail.

When we were students in the 1930s, the Mountain Club was in its infancy, but was easily the most popular extracurricular activity on campus. (I had long suspected this, but recently proved it while scanning the 1938 *Kaleidoscope*, which lists all the activities of our class when we were seniors. Of the 136 students in our class, 100 participated in the Mountain Club, which—if my math is correct—accounts for more than 73 percent of our class!)

In recent years—in an attempt to generate more news for our class notes column—I have asked my classmates to recall their favorite memories of life at Middlebury. Several have referred to the Mountain Club.

"In April of our sophomore year," Alice Crosby Loomis '37 wrote, "the Mountain Club climbed up Camel's

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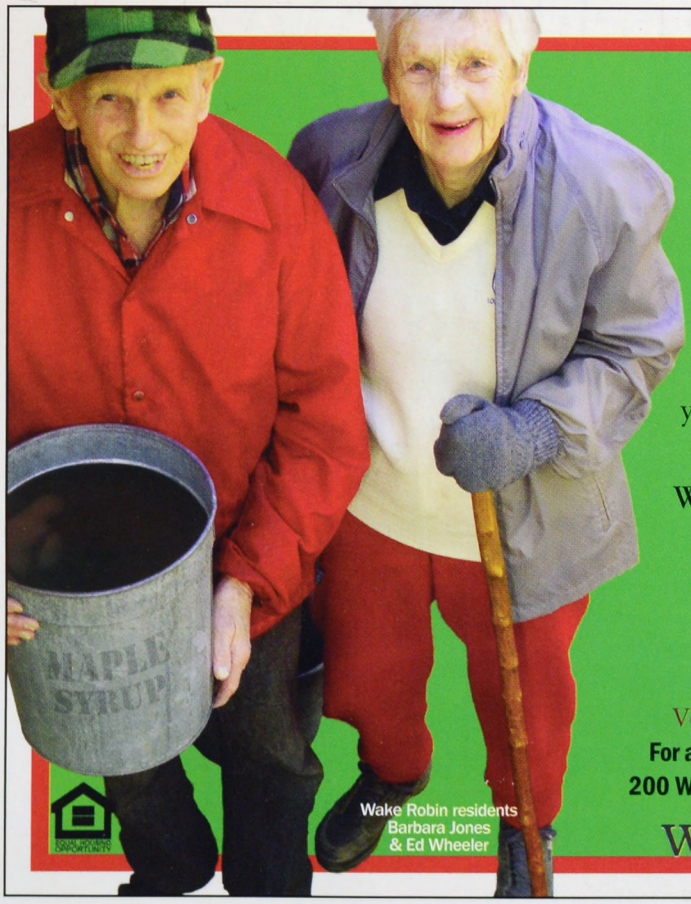

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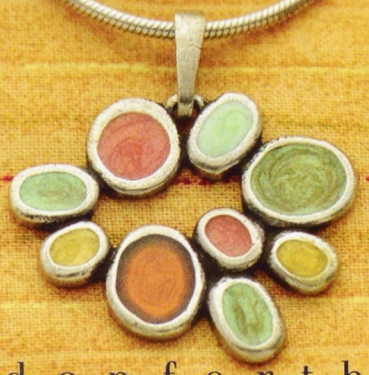
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LETTERS

Hump. It was warm and sunny on campus, but we encountered six to eight inches of snow before we reached the summit. Then it began to rain."

Gladys Caldroney '37, in her final note to us before her death, spoke of "the beauty of the hills" and her enjoyment of the Mountain Club hikes.

For me, I count one personal experience as probably the most memorable outdoor event of my life—an overnight hike up Mount Abe, in which we found ourselves above the clouds in bright moonlight, while the world around us was wrapped in white ice.

What a memory. Thanks for prompting it.

Marshall Sewell '37
Whiting, New Jersey

Corrections, Please

I WANT TO THANK YOU for printing in the fall edition an obituary for my sister, Michele Whitney '63, who died this past July. However, I do want to correct some misinformation which you included when you changed the obituary that I

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sent to you. You state that Middlebury survivors include Michele's uncle, Julius W. Whitney '35. He died in 1995. Her cousin Barbara Whitney Wilson '51 died about three years ago. I have no clue who Eileen Whitney Wilson '37 is; she is not a relative of ours. Shirley Whitney Juneo '58 is, indeed, alive and well.

As an American literature major, Michele learned from Doc Cook, Howard Munford, and Horace Beck that you "always check your facts." That served her well as a writer-researcher for *Time* and *Money* magazines. Might I suggest that when you choose to change an obituary someone has sent to you, that you contact that person and check your facts?

I hope you take this suggestion in the spirit of helpfulness that is intended.

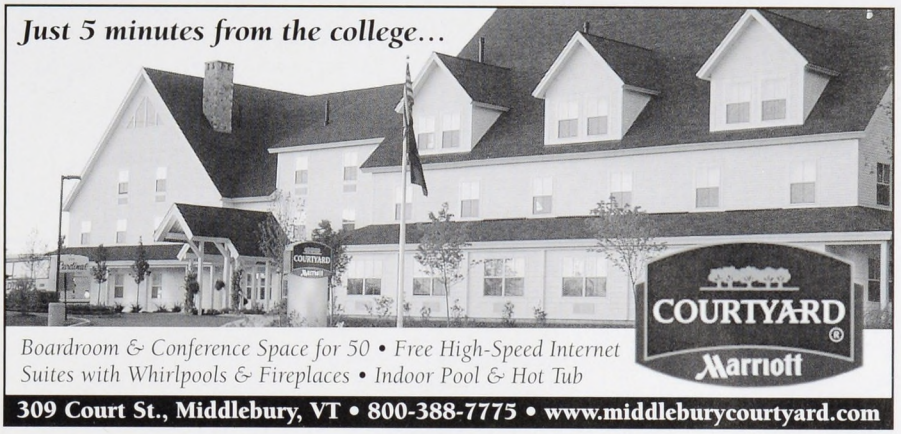
Pat Whitney Messler '69
Rockport, Maine

Editors' Note: Due to omissions in our database, we had incorrect information for Barbara Whitney Wilson '51 and Julius W. Whitney '35. We regret the errors. It is our understanding that Eileen Whitney Wilson is a distant cousin of the Whitney family, but if that is not true, we regret that error as well.

Remembering Sarah Smith Vuillet

MY CLASSMATE, SARAH SMITH VUILLET '56, passed away in April. Her obituary in your summer issue gave the "nuts and bolts" of her life.

Perhaps a few lines from a eulogy given by a colleague at Friends Academy, where she taught and was an administrator for 30 years, will tell you why Sally made such an impact on others' lives. "She was someone central to the school's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life in every imaginable way… She had a mix of sophistication and genuineness balanced by a wry sense of humor."

After work and family, Sally's dogs were her love. A lifelong golf champion, she was a fierce competitor. In building her English garden from scratch, she consulted books and catalogues, and visited nurseries in three states to find just the perfect plants to add to her garden.

Her life was so full, and she touched so many people. She was a credit to the Middlebury College community. "Sweet Sal," as her husband called her, is missed by all who knew her.

Karl A. Brautigam, Jr. '56
Norwalk, Connecticut

Weddings Plus...

I WONDER IF you would consider giving at least a page each in the magazine—with photo captions and historical comments—to the 25TH and 50TH year reunions? Although wedding pictures are nice, I believe it would also be nice to see how classmates have weathered the years and include a little history. For instance, 50 years ago we had great hockey teams under Duke Nelson, great ski teams, and great teachers, such as Cook and Munford in American literature, "Beowulf" Brown, Cubeta in Shakespeare, and former Lafayette Esquadrille aviator Heinrichs among other distinguished faculty. Also, of course, fraternities and sororities.

Bill Simpson '58
Pleasanton, California

Correction

IN THE FALL 2006 FEATURE STORY "THE $44,000 QUESTION," we reported that Middlebury's comprehensive fee of $44,000 per year is $13,600 less than the actual cost to educate a Middlebury student. That differential is incorrect. It should have been $29,000 less than the actual cost.

Letters Policy

Letters addressing topics discussed in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first letters. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: *Middlebury Magazine*, 5 Court Street, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. E-mail: middmag@middlebury.edu.

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Rev. Johanna Nichols, Minister
Sue Gallagher Borg '68, Choir Director

Thanks for your support!

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Lauren Aldrich '04 (aldrichlauren@yahoo.com)

Bistro dinner (5-minute walk)

Cabaret at the Town Hall Theatre (7-minute walk)

Fresh produce at the Farmer's Market (1-minute walk)

Hockey game at Middlebury College (11-minute walk)

Nature trail around Middlebury (as long as you want)

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BRIDGET BESAW ("Of Faith and Reason," p. 30) is a photographer based in San Francisco. Her work has appeared in *National Geographic Adventure*, *Smithsonian*, and *Yankee*.

BEN BROUWER '04 ("The Voyage of the *Tern*," p. 40) is a dancer, boatbuilder, sailor, and photographer from Lopez Island, Washington.

MICHELLE CHANG ("Russ Leng's Midd-Life Experience," p. 36) is an illustrator in New York City. Her work has appeared in *Entertainment Weekly*, the *New Yorker*, and *Rolling Stone*.

ELISABETH CREAN ("Second Acts," p. 48) is a writer in South Hero, Vermont.

ANDREA COBB ("Tracks on the Red Kelly Trail," p. 88) is an illustrator in North Carolina.

DENNIS CURRAN (Cover; "Opening Night," p. 22) is a photographer in Waitsfield, Vermont.

MAX S. GERBER ("The Puppet Master," p. 46) is a photographer in Los Angeles.

ELLIOTT GOLDEN ("Abroad View," p. 24) is an illustrator in New York City.

BEN GORE '04 ("The Voyage of the *Tern*," p. 40) is currently interning at *Harper's* magazine in New York City.

CYNTHIA JENSON-ELLIOTT ("The Puppet Master," p. 46) is a California-based freelance writer.

SALLY WEST JOHNSON '72 ("All Gather 'Round," p. 18) is a writer in Middlebury.

TIM JOHNSON ("Abroad View," p. 24) is a writer in Burlington, Vermont.

A political science professor, RUSS LENG '60 ("Russ Leng's Midd-Life Experience" p. 36) is retiring after nearly forty years of teaching at Middlebury.

SHEILA MCGRORY-KLYZA ("Sunday Night Live," p. 20) is a freelance writer in Bristol, Vermont.

BRETT MILLIER ("Tracks on the Red Kelly Trail," p. 88) is the Reginald L. Cook Professor of English and American Literatures at Middlebury.

ZACH TRENHOLM ("Hail to the Chief," p. 16) is an illustrator in San Francisco.

GORDON WIEBE ("All Gather 'Round," p. 18) is an illustrator in Toronto.

BRUCE WOOD ("Opening Night," p. 22) is a freelance writer in Etna, New Hampshire.

Never let truth get in the way of a good story.

Middlebury Magazine
is pleased to announce the 5th Annual
Middlebury Magazine Fiction Contest

CURRENT MIDDLEBURY STUDENTS and all MIDDLEBURY ALUMNI (undergraduate or graduate) are invited to submit unpublished manuscripts of 3,000 words or fewer. The first-place selection winner, as chosen by a panel of judges, will receive $300, and the story will be published in the summer magazine.

- Manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, and include a cover sheet with story title, author's name, address, and phone number.
- Submissions may be e-mailed to mjenning@middlebury.edu or mailed to *Middlebury Magazine*, Att: Fiction Contest, 5 Court Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Deadline: April 2, 2007

16 COLLEGE STREET
22 GAME TIME
24 ACADEMIC MATTERS
26 OLD CHAPEL
28 NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Uphill Downhill

HIDE AND SEEK
A child sneaks into a classroom in a small Tibetan village in Songpan, China. Though 30 students are in the class, there are only enough seats for 15, necessitating covert action to snag a seat.

This photo captured the 2007 Study Abroad photo contest. Photograph by Laurie Griffin '07

Hail to the Chief

AT AROUND 7:00 on the evening of October 24, students—with the occasional faculty, staff, and community member mixed in—began a slow, steady procession into Mead Chapel that didn't stop until the 750-capacity building was full thirty minutes later. Those fortunate enough to gain entry had been standing outside the Chapel for hours, braving a cold, constant drizzle—the first student arrived outside the doors at 4:30, and by 6:30 a line five across stretched three-quarters of the way down Storrs Walk to Old Chapel Road. (Viewing sites had been set up in Dana Auditorium and Bicentennial Hall to accommodate the overflow crowd.)

With 45 minutes or so still to go until the night's main event—the John Hamilton Fulton Lecture in the Liberal Arts—was to begin, undergrads began to pull books (*God on the Quad*, *The Odyssey*) from their backpacks and settled as comfortably as they could into Mead's wooden pews. A few people noodled over crossword puzzles, and a number of students plugged into their iPods. One young woman sitting in the balcony picked up a program for the lecture and upon seeing a picture of the speaker on the cover said to no one in particular, "What a babe."

Now, in the 218 years since the United States Supreme Court was established, it's probably safe to say that not many people have said such things about the Chief Justice of the United States, but John G. Roberts Jr. *is* the youngest chief justice in 200 years. He also has a great sense of humor, appears rather approachable, and exudes a normalcy that one doesn't expect coming from the highest judicial officer in the land.

All of the above traits were on display that October evening as Roberts delivered the Fulton Lecture—reading from handwritten notes on white, lined paper—a speech he described as a tribute to his predecessor on the court, William H. Rehnquist. (Before Roberts took the dais, it was announced that Middlebury had established an endowed faculty chair named in Rehnquist's honor.)

Roberts is a natural storyteller, and his history lesson on the 16th chief justice was peppered with humorous anecdotes, citations from the likes of Emerson, and a closing exhortation that "these times demand a greater emphasis on the study of American history and culture."

With his prepared remarks finished, Roberts opened the floor to questions (with the caveat that he wouldn't comment on cases that either were before the court or might come before the court). For about 25 minutes, he touched on the impact of modern technology on established legal rules ("perhaps the most important issue the Supreme Court will have to decide in five years"), legal precedent ("a reflection of the challenge of the job"), and universal jurisdiction for heinous crimes ("Whose rule of law would ascend to become the global rule of law? I understand the concept. I don't know how it would be implemented.").

To close, one student approached the standing microphone placed in the middle of the center aisle and pulled a recent issue of *The Atlantic* from his back pocket and began to read excerpts from a somewhat tongue-in-cheek piece written by a pair of writers (from the *National Journal* and *Washington Post*) that asserted that few jobs were as cushy as that of Supreme Court justices. "So, has it gotten too cushy for justices?" the student asked, while somehow managing to arch one eyebrow.

"I like my job a lot," Roberts responded with a chuckle, "but I don't know if I'd call it cushy."

—*Matt Jennings*

ILLUSTRATION BY ZACH TRENHOLM

Judging Rehnquist

In the fall, Middlebury President Ronald D. Liebowitz announced the establishment of an endowed professorship named in honor of Justice William H. Rehnquist, the late chief justice of the United States. The professorship—funded by an anonymous donor to honor the legacy of the nation's 16th chief justice—is devoted to furthering the study of American history, literature, and culture, and the first holder of the chair is history professor James R. Ralph '82, a teacher and scholar of American history whose research focuses on the civil rights movement.

"Jim Ralph's book, *Northern Protest: Martin Luther King Jr., Chicago, and the Civil Rights Movement*, made an important contribution to our understanding of a critical period in the nation's history," Liebowitz said. "I can think of no more fitting holder of the inaugural Rehnquist professorship."

The naming of a chair in honor of Rehnquist was not without controversy. A few weeks after the announcement, nearly 30 students and faculty members converged on Old Chapel to protest the naming. "Many see Rehnquist as a scholar of the Constitution," said junior Louis Lobel '08. "I respect [him] for his scholarly works, but a number of his views are immoral." Op-eds and letters to the editor of the *Middlebury Campus*—both supporting and decrying the naming—followed and it was reported that the administration would work with student leaders to create an endowed professorship that would be named after a figure of the students' choosing.

At the December faculty meeting, roughly one-third of eligible voting members cast a ballot on a "sense of the faculty" motion stating that the faculty "wish[ed] to reaffirm our commitment to diversity at Middlebury College," as the recent naming of an endowed chair for William H. Rehnquist "undermines Middlebury College's ability to promote diversity among its faculty, students, and staff." The motion cited "the documented pattern of hostility Judge Rehnquist demonstrated toward historically underrepresented groups and the negative effects his judicial decisions continue to have on the individual members of these groups, namely people of color, women, gays, and lesbians. "According to [the College's] mission statement," the motion continued, "diversity includes 'the integration of [these] historically underrepresented groups into the campus community.'" The motion passed with 52 in favor, 43 opposed.

In a January letter to the *Campus*, Liebowitz expressed disappointment in the contents of the resolution, writing that it "diminishes, quite ironically, the very thing it seeks—the institution commitment to 'diversity.'"

Allowing that the chief justice's political leanings differed from his own, Liebowitz argued that a political litmus test should not be used when accepting a gift honoring an individual. "To do otherwise narrows the range of ideas and perspectives a campus like ours is willing to entertain and debate.

Hail to the Chief, Part 2

William Jefferson Clinton, the 42nd president of the United States, will deliver the 2007 commencement address at Middlebury on May 27. Clinton's appearance marks the first time a U.S. president has delivered an address at the College. He will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters and will be joined by six other honorary degree recipients—Robert De Cormier, Janet Tiebout Hanson, James Gustave Speth, Mark and Dana Lim vanderHeyden, and Huda Y. Zoghbi.

Illustration by John Pritchett

Observed

■ **John G. Roberts Jr.,** the chief justice of the United States, delivered the 2006 John Hamilton Fulton Lecture in the Liberal Arts before a standing-room-only crowd in Mead Chapel on October 24. Despite the cold, raw day, students began lining up outside the chapel at 4:30 for the 8:00 lecture (doors opened at 7:00), and those unable to get into the chapel were able to watch the lecture remotely. ■ **That same evening,** President Ronald D. Liebowitz announced the establishment of an endowed faculty chair named in honor of William H. Rehnquist, Roberts's predecessor as chief on the court. History professor James Ralph '82 was named the first holder of the Rehnquist chair. In the subsequent days and weeks following the announcement of the named professorship—a position named and funded by an anonymous donor—a contingent of students and faculty voiced their displeasure that a chair had been named in Rehnquist's honor. ■ **Bill McKibben,** a Middlebury scholar-in-residence and recognized authority on environmental affairs, was tapped to direct a fellowship program in environmental journalism, which will be based at the College. Each year, the program will select ten journalists—two of whom will be Middlebury seniors—and will work with them to produce news stories for print, the Internet, and radio. ■ **Also on the environmental front,** Nan Jenks-Jay, the College's director of environmental affairs since 1997, was named the dean of environmental affairs in December.

continued

All Gather 'Round

On a glorious Saturday in early October, the Middlebury College Classics Department staged an experience in education that harked back to the early days of ancient Greece and Rome. Beginning on Friday evening and extending through the day Saturday, a dozen or so students and faculty took turns donning a garland of faux laurel leaves to read—in English—Virgil's *Aeneid* from the first page to the last.

For those who skipped those lectures in Classical Literature 101, *The Aeneid* is Virgil's account of the adventures of Aeneas, who survived the destruction of Troy by the Greeks and set sail with his men, seeking a new home. In the spirit of Odysseus, he endured all manner of natural and man-made disasters in his seven years before the mast, settling finally near the site of what would later become Rome.

The setting for the modern reading seemed fitting. The listeners sat on the steps of the College library while the readers stood in the shadow of the huge marble walls that demarcate the library's grand entry, not unlike the walls of an ancient marble temple where Greeks might have gathered to listen to a reading of *The Iliad* or *The Odyssey*. The event was refreshingly low-tech. There were no modern accouterments—no PowerPoint slides, no multi-media presentations, not even a microphone.

On the other hand, it should be noted that lack of technology can be a handicap in these noisy times. Spanish Professor Roberto Veguez was forced to rely on his voice to do audio battle with a cranked-up boom box, whooping sports fans at the stadium down the road, a helicopter hovering overhead for a time, and a seemingly endless parade of parents and prospective students. He struggled mightily to make himself heard as he importuned the gods to show favor to poor Aeneas as he attempted to arrange a sacrificial feast in honor of the bones of his ancestors. (At least I think that's what Aeneas was doing. It was hard to hear.)

Admittedly, it is tempting to poke fun at such an enterprise as the last stand of the Luddites. Tempting but unworthy. After all, the fact there exists a sizable branch of the publishing industry dedicated to "talking books" strongly suggests a significant resurgence of public interest in the oral tradition.

The audience never numbered more than a dozen or so at any given time, including at the two-hour Friday evening session that kicked off the marathon. Some of those in the audience were signed up to read; some appeared to be friends and roommates of the upcoming readers or perhaps students hoping to boost their grade point average in a classics class. Still others cast furtive glances this way and that, then sidled up to the plates of luscious Italian pastries that had been set out, grabbed a handful and were soon gone. Last but not least were the parents of

prospective students, smiling and nodding encouragingly at their offspring, imagining in some misguided moment that Joey Jr. might prefer to spend his Saturdays listening to Virgil instead of sucking down brewskis at the football game. As fantasies go, this one is harmless.

Roberto Veguez was followed by Pavlos Sfyroeras of the Classics Department (a Cuban succeeded by a Greek), who took his turn at wearing the laurel garland. At noon, student Sara Helmers '09 was scheduled to take over the podium. The marathon was planned to last until dinnertime.

In the end, of course, what the *Aeneid* proves yet again is that old adage about there being nothing new under the sun. Replace Trojans and Greeks with Sunnis and Shias or Palestinians and Israelis, or Catholics and Protestants—it all amounts to the same thing: war, political strife, treachery, wandering refugees, and ultimately the making of history. Is it a plague or blessing to know that several thousand years later, *plus ca change...*

—Sally West Johnson '72

Illustration by Gordon Wiebe

Half a World Away

In the fall of 1976, 11 students became the first to study the Chinese language at Middlebury. The chaos of China's 10-year-long Cultural Revolution was only beginning to abate, and the country had been closed to most Americans for more than a quarter century; studying Chinese seemed a strange choice, worthy at least of a raised eyebrow.

Today, China is a hybrid of Western capitalism and socialist ideology, and while the Communist Party remains in firm control of the country's political apparatus, a liberalized economy is changing the face of the world's most populous nation. And half a world away, Middlebury's Chinese department has grown during the past 30 years—like China itself—in leaps and bounds.

The program's accomplishments were cause for celebration during the course of a weekend in October, when graduates living in Beijing, New York, and many spots in between returned to Vermont for the department's 30th anniversary reunion and conference.

"I think it's fair to say we do represent something of a success story," a beaming John Berninghausen, the department's co-founder and Truscott Professor of Chinese, told a packed crowd of alums at the start of the event.

Modest words.

Today, more than 50 students are enrolled in first-year Chinese, while 43 others are in their second year. And the department's signs of growth are visible elsewhere.

When Berninghausen and the late Gregory Kuei-ke Chiang launched the department in 1976, the only courses offered were first- and second-year Chinese and Chinese literature in translation. Today, more than a dozen courses make up a curriculum rich in Chinese culture and linguistics, and 13 students take classes at Middlebury's Chinese school in Hangzhou, China, a bustling city some 100 miles south of Shanghai—and more than 7,200 miles from the department's home in Voter Hall.

At the reunion, people marveled at the growth of the department and compared experiences—both as students and as professionals. Of course, there were panel discussions and freewheeling conversations about China and Chinese (from conducting business in the People's Republic to teaching the country's language and history in the United States), and, as such events always do, the gathering also provided opportunities to reminisce: about late nights practicing characters for an upcoming *tingxie* (literally, "listen and write") quiz; of Januarys spent not on the slopes, but inside cramming for class (Berninghausen decided to make Chinese study in the one-month winter term mandatory in 1979; other departments soon followed suit).

"In our Chinese language courses, from the beginning level to our most advanced senior seminars, all seven faculty members in this department work hard to provide our students with dynamic and intensive instruction," Berninghausen says, when asked to explain the program's strength. "That is all in the service of a clear goal: to help each individual student thoroughly and rapidly attain strong proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural background."

Half a world away, Middlebury's Chinese department has grown during the past 30 years—like China itself—in leaps and bounds.

Tim McCahill '03 is writer at Men's Journal *in New York City and a former Chinese major.*

Past Tense: February 1877

Isn't the present appearance of Painter Hall rather a disgrace to this institution? Why will the students break out all the windows in the halls and throw ashes and slops all over the front steps? Some means ought to be taken to stop it.

—*Middlebury Undergraduate,* February 1877

■ **The Middlebury alpine ski team** raised more than $56,000 in a benefit bicycle ride for teammate Kelly Brush '08, who was paralyzed from the waist down in a ski racing accident last year. Brush participated in the grueling 100-mile loop through Addison County, completing more than eight miles on a hand-cycle. ■ **In other ski news,** the College announced that the Snow Bowl will be a carbon neutral facility this winter. To achieve carbon neutrality, Middlebury purchased carbon offsets from a privately held renewable energy company to compensate for a total of 679.9 tons of carbon dioxide emissions produced by the ski area this winter. The energy company then uses money raised through the purchase of offsets to fund wind turbine farms and farm methane projects. The Snow Bowl's carbon reduction initiative received a fair amount of national attention, including write-ups in the *New York Times* and *U.S. News & World Report.* ■ **The J.K. Rowling-inspired game quidditch**—the sport of choice in the Harry Potter series—has surfaced at Middlebury. This fall, a group of students launched an intramural version of the game—think polo, only instead of horses, participants "ride" broomsticks—and for their efforts they landed on the front page of the *Wall Street Journal.* ■ **In November,** the student organization Incarceration in Question hosted a four-day symposium titled "Double-Standards of Justice: A Weekend Workshop on Race, Class, and the Death Penalty." The event concluded with a candlelight vigil on the steps of Mead Chapel.

continued

Go Figure

741
New items received by the Middlebury College libraries in October

574
Number of books received

19
Number of musical scores received

3
Number of libraries at Middlebury

25,444
Number of items checked out in October

20,715
Number of items check out at the main library

3,072
Number of items check out at the music library

1,657
Number of items checked out at the Armstrong (science) library

Sunday Night Live

"Keep Vermonters Warm will be back in this corner," someone shouts, gesturing toward a spot near the fireplace in the Grand Salon of the Château. "Biodiesel will be out in the hall," someone else bellows.

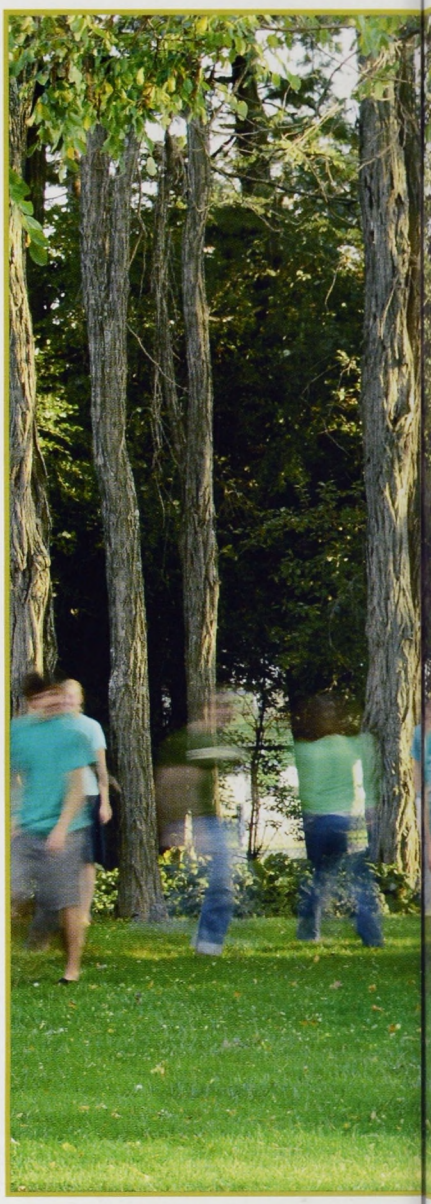
It's Sunday evening, and 50 Middlebury students—give or take a few—have descended on the Château for the weekly gathering of the Sunday Night Group (SNG), a student collective working in various ways to combat climate change. It's raining outside and mid-terms are looming, which may explain the lower-than-normal turnout (70-plus students usually attend each meeting), but those who *are* in attendance are diligently breaking into groups of eight or nine to discuss issues they want to tackle or initiatives they want to launch. (Last spring, one such SNG brainstorming session culminated in the formation of a 130-student delegation that traveled to Montreal for the UN Climate Change Negotiations.)

SNG has the feel of something that's been part of campus life for a while, yet it's only two years old. Founded in January 2005, SNG had a simple beginning: a group of students in a Winter Term course on global warming began meeting independently outside of class on Sunday evenings, a time when little else was scheduled. They've been meeting every Sunday evening since, often drawing faculty, staff, and interested townspeople into their activities.

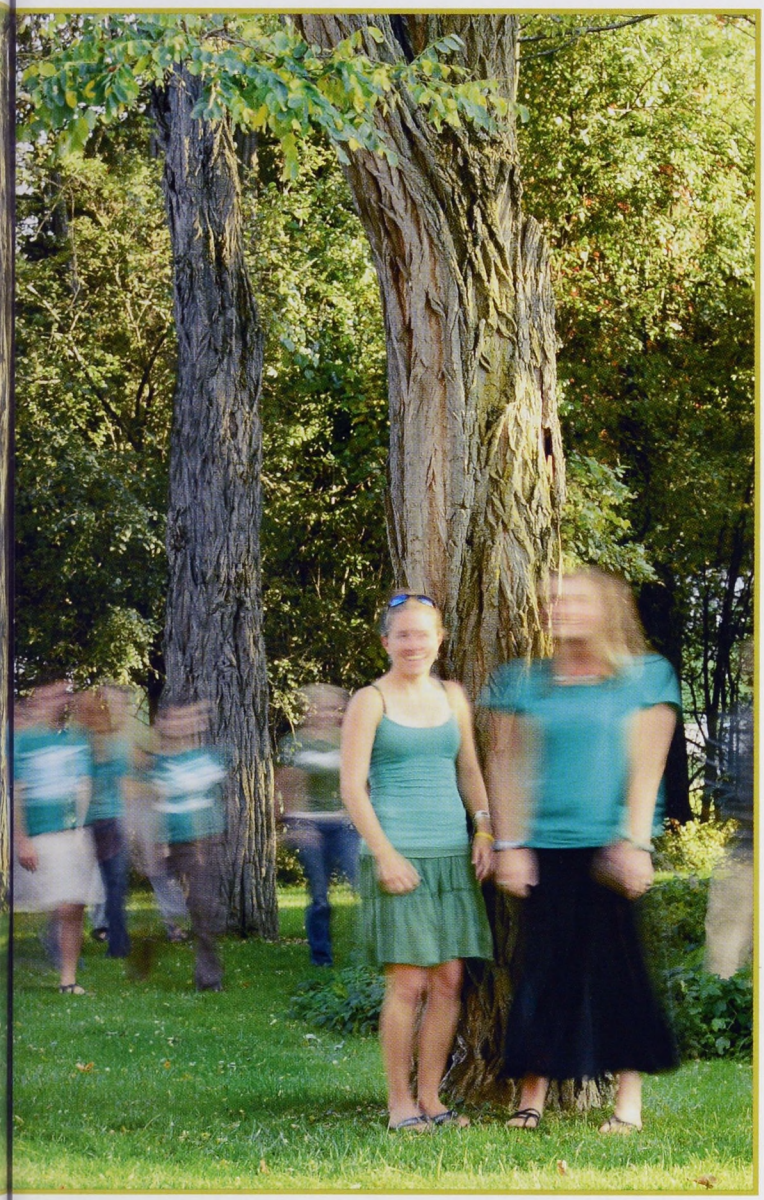
"I've spoken on hundreds of college campuses in the last decade, and there is no question that SNG represents the most active and engaged college environmentalists in the country," says author, environmentalist, and Scholar-in-Residence Bill McKibben. "They have a dozen good ideas at any given moment, they push them hard, and they learn from successes and failures. It is a self-taught school of environmental activism."

One of those good ideas has been commanding a lot of attention on campus lately: SNG's Carbon Neutrality Initiative (CNI). The term 'carbon neutral' has been receiving a lot of buzz—it will be added to the *New Oxford American Dictionary* in 2007—and it essentially means that an entity's net carbon emissions must be zero. "First and foremost, that means increasing energy efficiency and developing innovative ways to produce or purchase clean power from local sources," explains Jamie Henn, a senior history major and co-founder of SNG. "Second, the College would purchase 'carbon offsets,' meaning investments in emissions cutting programs elsewhere that compensate for the remaining emissions on campus."

Last fall, CNI launched an innovative pr campaign, blanketing the campus with its hip, eye-catching logo, middSHIFT (and its accompanying slogan, "Shift into carbon neutrality"). Then they followed that up with an educational session, all in the hopes of gaining crucial campus support for their cause—that the College will commit to being carbon neutral by 2017. (The group will make a formal presentation to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting in February. The students are hoping that the trustees will be as receptive as they were in early October when a small group pitched the idea and the board agreed to endorse CNI.) If the initiative is successful, Middlebury



STAND AND DELIVER
In just two short years, the Sunday Night Group has evolved from a germ of an idea into one of the most active—and effective—groups on campus.



could become the first college to achieve carbon neutrality.

"If Middlebury wants to remain an environmental leader, we need to be out there making bold steps," Henn says. "The College has a real opportunity here to walk the talk. Biomass is a huge step in the right direction."

"SNG has the image of a bunch of crazy, environmental hippies," says Chester Harvey, a sophomore geography major, "but we want CNI to be feasible from a business perspective, to have the support of the suits and ties."

To that end, the group has used brainstorming sessions to fine tune business language and develop branding concepts. And while these activists don't exactly work within the system—they prefer to be "dynamic and quick, not stuck in the bureaucracy," as Henn says—they recognize the need for coordination with the "key players" on campus, from the manager of the Snow Bowl up to the treasurer of the College.

Sierra Murdoch, a sophomore environmental studies major who has been involved with the group since she arrived on campus, has been instrumental in bringing together these key players. Their insights and those of some outside consultants will all contribute to the final plan that is presented to the Board, she says, but "in the end, the Initiative will involve the input of everyone on campus because everyone contributes to our carbon footprint."

Clearly they have impressed those at the top and have earned their support and praise. "I admire and appreciate how they pursue what is important to them, and do so in such an effective manner," says President Ron Liebowitz. "They have built something from the ground up without existing infrastructure, but smartly identified resources around them who assist them in thinking through how to get from A to B. This is a skill they will use all their lives, and is something we should be inculcating in all Middlebury students: identify what is important to you; pursue those interests and passions; take intellectual risks to achieve what you seek to accomplish; know your strengths and limitations; reach out to all available resources; and go for it."

Perhaps it's this "go for it" mentality that has led them be called the most influential student group on campus, despite the fact that "we're not even an official student group," as Harvey says. "We're not recognized as one and we receive no funding from the College. We don't want to be official. Then we'd have to follow the rules."

—Sheila McGrory-Klyza

■ **November was Religious Life Awareness Month** at Middlebury, the first time the event has unfolded over an entire month rather than one week. More than 1,000 people participated in the myriad events, which included a symposium on social justice sponsored by the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. ■ **During exam week,** three students spent 72 hours living in the library, an "event" covered by the *Middlebury Campus*. No word on how cozy the accommodations were. ■ **The women's cross-country team** captured its fourth national title, edging NESCAC rival Amherst, 144-143, at the NCAA championships in November. The championship was the College's 27th since its teams began competing in NCAA post-season play in 1995. ■ **Thirty-four Middlebury students** were named 2006 NESCAC Fall All-Academic selections. Only Amherst, Bowdoin, and Williams had more selections. ■ **Tragedy befell the Middlebury campus** with the death of a first-year student, Norbert Vaughn '10. Vaughn withdrew from the College in mid-October when he was diagnosed with a brain tumor. He died in mid-November due to complications from brain surgery. ■ **A pair of longtime Middlebury professors**—Kim Sparks and D.K. Smith—passed away this fall. Their obituaries can be found on pages 80 and 81. They will be greatly missed.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB HANDELMAN

Opening Night

A writer goes behind the scenes to document the start of the 2006–07 men's hockey season.

By Bruce Wood

The clack of stick on stick and the scrape of skates on ice. The dull thud when a puck hits the boards. Voices echoing off empty seats.

A familiar potpourri of sound greets former Middlebury skater Jon Parr '92, who has flown in from Chicago with his girlfriend to catch the Panthers' opener against Tufts and the next afternoon's contest against Connecticut College.

While the women's team wraps up practice, Parr studies a plaque on the wall of Chip Kenyon '85 Arena. He runs his finger over a picture of the 1990–1991 ECAC championship team and stops at a younger version of himself sandwiched between Dave Fritzsche '92 and Chuck Hibbett '92.

"This will be the first time I've seen a game in this building," a reverential Parr says with a look around the still-empty arena two hours before game time. "It's almost a cathedral. I joke with my friends that this is a school of 2,100, and you could hold an Olympics here."

At ground level of the eight-year-old arena, Parr's successors have shed the shirts and ties they wore to their 3:30 team dinner. Some are stickhandling balls in the hallway outside their locker room. A few will ride a stationary bike. Others will simply stretch, alone with thoughts of the impending season.

Upstairs, fans who queued up long before the doors open, renew acquaintances and marvel at how children have grown since last year.

"It's really a special environment," Coach Bill Beaney says. "It's friends meeting friends after not having seen each other for a while. It's the anticipation of a new season, of everybody starting off with a perfect slate. Opening day is special, so full of promise."

Seated on the floor at the head of the line waiting to enter the arena are Martha and Richard Venne of Salisbury, Vermont, along with Martha's son, 12-year-old Will Varno.

"We like to sit behind the home bench, because Will likes to lean over the glass and listen to the coach," Martha says. "We get the same seats every game, except sometimes in the playoffs."

Although Kenyon seating is general admission, an informal protocol has developed over the years. "Seats have kind of been reserved through continual usage," explains Beaney. "If you're there early and the other person isn't, you don't sit in their seat. Not that it always works 100 percent."

Mike Funk of New Haven isn't taking chances. He has placed newspaper sections over

HOT TICKET
Prime seats are right behind the Panthers' bench, where fans hope to catch snippets of Coach Beaney's instructions to his team.

Photograph by Dennis Curran

seven top-row seats for friends. "It's not preplanned which of them will sit where," he says, "but you don't want someone who leans sitting next to you."

With 20 minutes to go before faceoff, Mike McGill's WCAX-TV standup drifts over the hum of the crowd. "The Panthers don't take anyone lightly, knowing as the champs they get everyone's A game," McGill says, in a TV voice back to the studio.

While McGill finishes up, young eyes return to the ice where Butch Atkins is celebrating 25 years aboard the Middlebury Zamboni. "The main thing is you don't want to pay attention to the fans watching you when you are out there," he explains later. "I'll flash my lights and wave to the kids once in a while, but you've got to pay attention."

Meanwhile, a short walk away at the Center for the Arts, Sally Swallow '07 is finishing her half-hour of scales and exercises in preparation for singing both "O Canada" and "The Star-Spangled Banner."

"The American national anthem is more challenging musically," she explains. "I think it's important to remain true to the music that was written, but I like to bring some of myself to it. It's amazing, hearing the arena humming along."

With 20 minutes to go before faceoff, Mike McGill's WCAX-TV standup drifts over the hum of the crowd.

Well before applause drowns out Swallow's final notes, the teams are champing at the bit to get going. "Doing both anthems takes a little longer, so you are trying to focus your energy that whole time," says senior Brett Shirreffs. "Then you try to let it really go in the first couple of shifts."

Before they do, Beaney savors a moment with his thoughts.

"I try to look around and take it all in," he says. "It's a healthy thing to do. To really step back and say, 'You know, this is a special day and a really special place.'"

At the southwest end of Kenyon, the student section has started to chant, "Midd, Midd, Midd," and is still filling in when a Ryan Seavy '10 goal at 14:43 of the first period elicits a roar. With that, senior Leland Davis takes a lap around the concourse carrying a large M flag. When Shirreffs scores a few minutes later, Davis—dressed in white shorts over black spandex tights, a Middlebury hockey sweater, cape, and white bandanna—takes off again, a trailing group of children turning him into a blue-and-white Pied Piper.

Davis is leaning over the railing sucking wind when Mack Cummins makes it 3-0 just 36 seconds later.

"This is my third season doing this," Davis says between periods. "After Mike Kirkland '04 graduated, somebody had to step up. Nobody did, so I said, 'Why not me?'"

While a parade of junior high girls strolls the concourse between the second and third periods, Will Varno and his buddies play "kick hockey" on the tile floor outside the Kenyon kitchen.

Nearby sophomore Natalie Komrovsky and her softball teammates smile their way through the between-periods crush at the concession stand to earn money for their spring trip. "It's fun," she says. "It can get kind of crazy during the guys' games, but I love it, and it helps us go to Florida."

At ice level, veteran timekeeper John Provoncha keeps the locker room apprised of the time as the break winds down. "Two minutes on the clock," Provoncha shouts down the hallway. "1:30 on the clock. 1:15. Bring 'em out."

Kyle Koziara's powerplay goal, with 1:39 remaining in the game, sends Davis around the rink for the sixth and final time. Before he returns, the student section rattles keys, chanting, "Warm up the bus."

When time runs out, seventh-year goal judge Allan Duclos relaxes. "No mistakes tonight," he says. "Sometimes you can get led by the crowd, but you can't anticipate."

Following a cool-down jog outside the locker room, the Middlebury players knot their ties and head to Kenyon Lounge for a postgame meal.

The arena is quiet now. Middlebury's Director of Athletic Communications Brad Nadeau has scurried off to file reports on the game. Radio and video crews are breaking down their equipment in the press box.

In the empty stands, members of the Middlebury crew team clean up popcorn boxes, paper cups, and losing raffle tickets to pay for their spring trip to Georgia.

Deep in the bowels of the building, Tanya Lizotte goes about her business in the athletic laundry room. If things go as planned, she'll have the uniforms washed and dried by midnight. Ready to do it all again the next day.

Bruce Wood is a writer in Etna, New Hampshire.

Abroad View

Understanding China—and its primary language—has never been more important.

By Tim Johnson

Soon after North Korea tested a nuclear weapon this past fall, the students in Chinese 425 started their discussion of the crisis-in-the-making by considering Beijing's official reaction.

The jumping-off point for their classroom dialogue was a news account from an officially sanctioned Chinese wire service, quoting the likes of President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao, just as the text had appeared in the Chinese press.

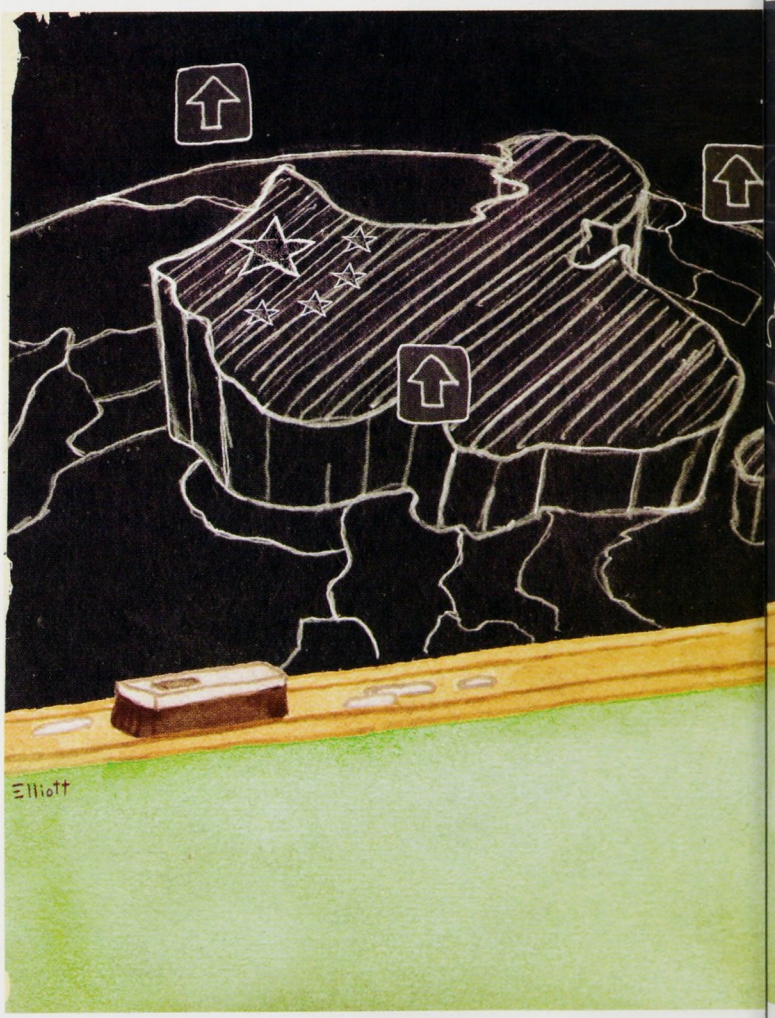
The students noted that Hu said the sorts of diplomatic things one might expect a national leader to say: that China "resolutely opposes North Korea's nuclear test" but would strive for a peaceful, negotiated resolution and a resumption of six-nation talks to defuse the situation.

Moving on to a more general discussion of the North Korean problem, Hang Du, assistant professor of Chinese, presided over what proved to be a fairly lively interchange. She maintained a swift conversational pace—here questioning a student on a phrase or concept, there injecting a joke or a serious comment and inviting others.

What's noteworthy about this course, Contemporary Social Issues in China, is that it's conducted *entirely* in Chinese. Not just the readings, but all the class discussions, the individual student presentations, the essays, and other written work—all are in Chinese. In fact, when Du arrives in the classroom, the custom before the session begins is for everyone to stop speaking English and revert to Chinese, even in informal banter. ("What did you do last night?" or "Could I borrow your car?") This comes almost naturally to these students, most of whom have been through the Middlebury summer language school and a semester's language study at the Middlebury school in China, located in Hangzhou—programs that both entail a pledge to speak nothing but Chinese.

The fall semester's readings—from newspapers, journals, and other current Chinese sources—have covered a heady array of topics: Chinese college life, student suicide, sex and homosexuality, national demographics (the problem of caring for pensioners, the growing male-female imbalance), China's role in global warming, the legal system and the death penalty, Sino-Japanese relations.

Now and then Du would throw something utterly unacademic into the mix. In the run-up to Halloween, there were some contemporary Chinese ghost stories.

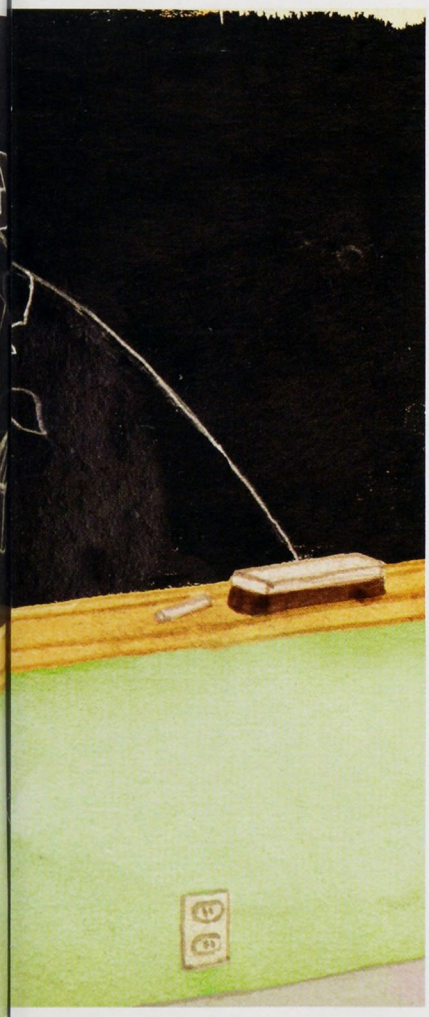


CHINA RISING
With China emerging as the world's next superpower, the study of societal issues within the Asian giant takes on added import.

Illustration by Elliott Golden

Perhaps the most unconventional reading assignment was a poignantly elegant essay, an arresting declaration of love titled "I Want to Hold Your Hand"—composed by a nameless applicant in Shanghai on a written portion of this year's Chinese college-entrance exam.

Yet for all the time Du and her students spend talking about issues, Chinese 425 is still fundamentally a language class. Du's Ph.D. is in linguistics



and, while her assigned readings reflect her interest in other fields as they pertain to China (sociology, international relations), the main thrust of her work in the classroom is to help students master the key phrases in the texts they read.

"*Xian mu*, what does that mean?" she asked during the session on the "Hand" essay, referring to two characters she'd highlighted in the text. The expression is normally translated as "to admire," but the definitions she invited, of course, had to be in Chinese.

"*Yan hong*," one student suggested. This literally means "red eye," or figuratively, "to envy."

"Not quite," Du replied, and then explained the distinction: one compound has a positive connotation, the other, negative.

The "Hand" essay demanded an unusual amount of nuanced interpretation and inference. Neither the gender of the writer nor the gender of the object of the writer's affection was explicit. The best inference was that both were male, and that the piece was, in fact, an avowal of homosexual love. Some students figured this out in their first reading; others reached the "Ah ha" stage later, as the class went through the piece.

Whoever had to grade the essay in China apparently read it the same way. It purportedly received a score of "zero" in the college-entrance exam, Du said.

When the students in Chinese 425 speak in general terms about the China they've experienced, one of the recurrent descriptions they use is *bao shou*, by which they mean "socially conservative." China is a place, after all, where sexual freedom is commonly frowned on—where an essay like "Hand" can get a failing grade and where a collegiate one-night stand can be grounds for expulsion.

China is a place, after all, where sexual freedom is commonly frowned on.

On the other hand, China's breathtaking economic growth is leading to societal changes nobody could have predicted a few years ago. A common observation among the Middlebury students is that government control of personal expression is much less severe than they had anticipated.

During one class, Kate Leyland '07 said that while in Beijing, she had seen a private showing of a film on the 1989 Tiananmen Square protest—including the iconic scene of the man standing up to the advancing tank.

That such a film could be shown in China came as a surprise to Du, who is from Beijing. "I never saw that movie when I was in China," she said later. Now in her third year teaching the course, she added: "Every year, I learn something new from the students in this class."

Something else that's new to her—but old hat to the students who have lived in China in the past year—is the phenomenon of the *wang ba*. These are Internet cafes, often smoke-filled dives, where many Chinese young people hang out. Leyland suggested that blogging would be a force for social change.

Leyland's comments came during a class presentation on her impressions of China. Every fall, students are assigned a 10-minute oral discourse on their personal views of China. Most accounts were heavily anecdotal, drawing not just from experiences in and around the university at Hangzhou, but from travels, from temporary jobs, and from encounters on the street.

One undercurrent in most of these talks was a fondness for the country and for people the students had met. They repeatedly mentioned that their language facility paved the way for insights, contacts, and understandings they could never have achieved as mere tourists. Most of them said they wanted to go back.

Leyland concluded her talk with an anecdote that, she said, was emblematic of the public face that China likes to present to the world.

When she went to visit Mao's tomb in Beijing, it was closed for the day. The public face in this place, a grand national showcase, belonged to a security guard who told her to come back another time.

He was, she told her amused classmates, the most handsome man she had seen in China.

Listening to Students

During a series of meetings, the president learns what is on their minds.

By President Ronald D. Liebowitz

DURING THE FALL SEMESTER, I organized a series of nine student lunches and held expanded office hours in an attempt to hear our students' opinions on issues related to their Middlebury experience. These meetings provided me with a refreshing and thought-provoking picture of our students and the education they are receiving at the College. Though they are, as I learned, very content at Middlebury, most of the students loved the opportunity to speak openly and critically about many aspects of life at Middlebury that they would like to see improved or changed.

Here is a brief summary of a few of the issues covered in the lunches, along with some thoughts I take forward from those encounters. I should note that the gatherings were not with specific groups of students, such as the student government leadership, the *Campus* editorial board, or the Commons Councils. Each meeting consisted of a random mix of students; in many cases, few students knew other students at their particular lunch. These random compositions produced discussions that included diverse opinions from students whose voices are not typically represented by official student organizations.

In the category of "not surprising, but heartening to hear," students were nearly unanimous in praising our faculty for their commitment to undergraduate teaching and their ability to convey effectively the excitement and relevance of their fields. Such a reaction by the students supports the flattering, albeit unscientific, top ranking our faculty received this past year from *The Princeton Review* in the category "Professors Get High Marks." Only one of the approximately 100 students who attended the lunches voiced criticism of the quality of teaching and level of engagement of our faculty. I heard many examples of faculty extending themselves to help students understand the subject matter, help them write and argue more precisely, and guide them in effectively communicating findings from independent or collaborative work to peer and external audiences.

Students voiced concern more than once about the academic workload, claiming some assignments in too many courses seemed gratuitous. This issue was raised during the strategic planning process, and there was much discussion about the pressures some faculty—especially the younger faculty—feel to assign a certain quantity of work to avoid the reputation of being too easy, even if the marginal gains for students are minimal. The extra work, students argue, promotes a self-fulfilling "work hard, play hard" mentality that results all too often in irresponsible drinking and limited social endeavors. It also, students claim, reduces the amount of time available for reflection and to pursue meaningful activities outside the classroom.

Students asked when the Monterey initiative would provide opportunities for them. Many would like to see a semester or yearlong program through which students would take international-oriented courses not offered at Middlebury, including courses in, and related to, business. They would also like to see the establishment of a "4+1" program through which students would earn a B.A. from Middlebury and an M.A. or M.B.A. from Monterey in one of a number of internationally focused areas. In addition, students are seeking summer and winter term internship and research assistant opportunities at Monterey's world-renowned Center for Nonproliferation Studies. All of these programmatic ideas will be engaged this year by Middlebury and Monterey administrators and faculty, and we are hopeful we can turn these ideas into opportunities next year.

I heard a number of students voice concern over the College's formidable bureaucracies—about offices with staff eager to help, but which, the students maintain, has the unintended consequence of stifling student initiative and

Photograph by Dennis Curran

creativity. Many students have been able to cut through such bureaucracies (the Organic Garden founders, the Sunday Night Group, the Middlebury Musicians Guild), but far too many, apparently, have not. This issue was a theme particularly of students who visited during office hours.

Students questioned the College community's commitment to diversity, tolerance, and mutual respect. Many said they would like to see a more racially and socioeconomically diverse student body to enrich Middlebury's learning environment. Some students said they believe their views are not welcome in class or in general discussions around campus, and that the strong support for diversity efforts excludes a desire for a learning environment that fosters and welcomes diversity of thought. The recent controversy over the College accepting a gift to establish an endowed professorship in honor of former Chief Justice William Rehnquist was the most recent example cited by the students.

There were many thoughtful comments and important questions raised about our Commons residential initiative. Students, in general, are far more supportive today of the Commons system than they have been at any time since it was introduced. The good work of the Commons heads and deans in establishing a richer environment for learning beyond the classroom and in strengthening communication with faculty about student issues has contributed significantly to this more positive attitude. Yet, the student body remains divided when it comes to the soundness of the philosophy that lies behind the system, and to its prescriptive nature.

The strongest supporters of the system point to the benefits of creating smaller communities within the larger 2,350-student body; to the decentralization of the dean of students office and the greater personalization that has come with having a dedicated dean in each Commons; to the greater likelihood of students meeting faculty and staff outside the classroom at Commons-sponsored events; to new student leadership opportunities on the five Commons Councils. Those who question the system's "fit" at Middlebury claim the student body is already small and dividing it up into five communities limits its interaction that is the lifeblood of an already isolated campus; that the system provides too much structure and too many support systems for students—that students today should receive less rather than more guidance (or what some students labeled "handholding") if they are to make a successful transition into a world that requires independent action and thought more than ever; that the rigidity surrounding where students can live, especially juniors and seniors, is overly prescriptive; and that trying to build continuing residential communities across all four classes when such a large percentage of the student body studies away (around 60 percent of juniors) seems incongruous.

Several students asked about College finances and the cost of completing the Commons infrastructure. With the infrastructure of two of the five Commons in place, completion of the system will require adding three new dining halls and at least three residence halls. Students wanted to discuss what the College might *not* be able to do in the future if it were to allocate such a significant commitment of resources to complete the Commons infrastructure. They asked if such an investment is more worthwhile to the College than using the funds for other purposes identified in the College's new strategic plan: improving access to Middlebury through increased financial aid, adding faculty to ensure small(er) classes and more student-faculty collaborative work, and enriching our existing academic and co-curricular programs.

I heard from several students about our student body's "hidden" or "underground" talents.

And finally, I heard from several students about our student body's "hidden" or "underground" talents—talents that several lunch participants claimed are not acknowledged or supported at Middlebury as strongly as they should be. Students cited with great passion the interest in activities including debate, public speaking, music, and art, yet noted how these activities required, but did not receive, significant institutional support outside the academic program.

So what did I take away from my semester's worth of lunch and office-hour meetings with students? Our students are remarkably happy at Middlebury. They are extremely content with the quality of the academic program and the time and attention they receive from our faculty. They are far more thoughtful about our Commons residential system—its strengths and weaknesses—than is often portrayed or mentioned when faculty and administrators discuss the further development of the system. They would like fewer bureaucracies on campus to make it easier for them to pursue new initiatives that are not "official" programs sponsored by the College, and they asked that the College create spaces where student-led activities, outside of our academic program, could thrive.

These issues, plus several others that were raised at the lunches or during office hours, will frame some important discussions on campus next semester. I will keep you posted on their progress.

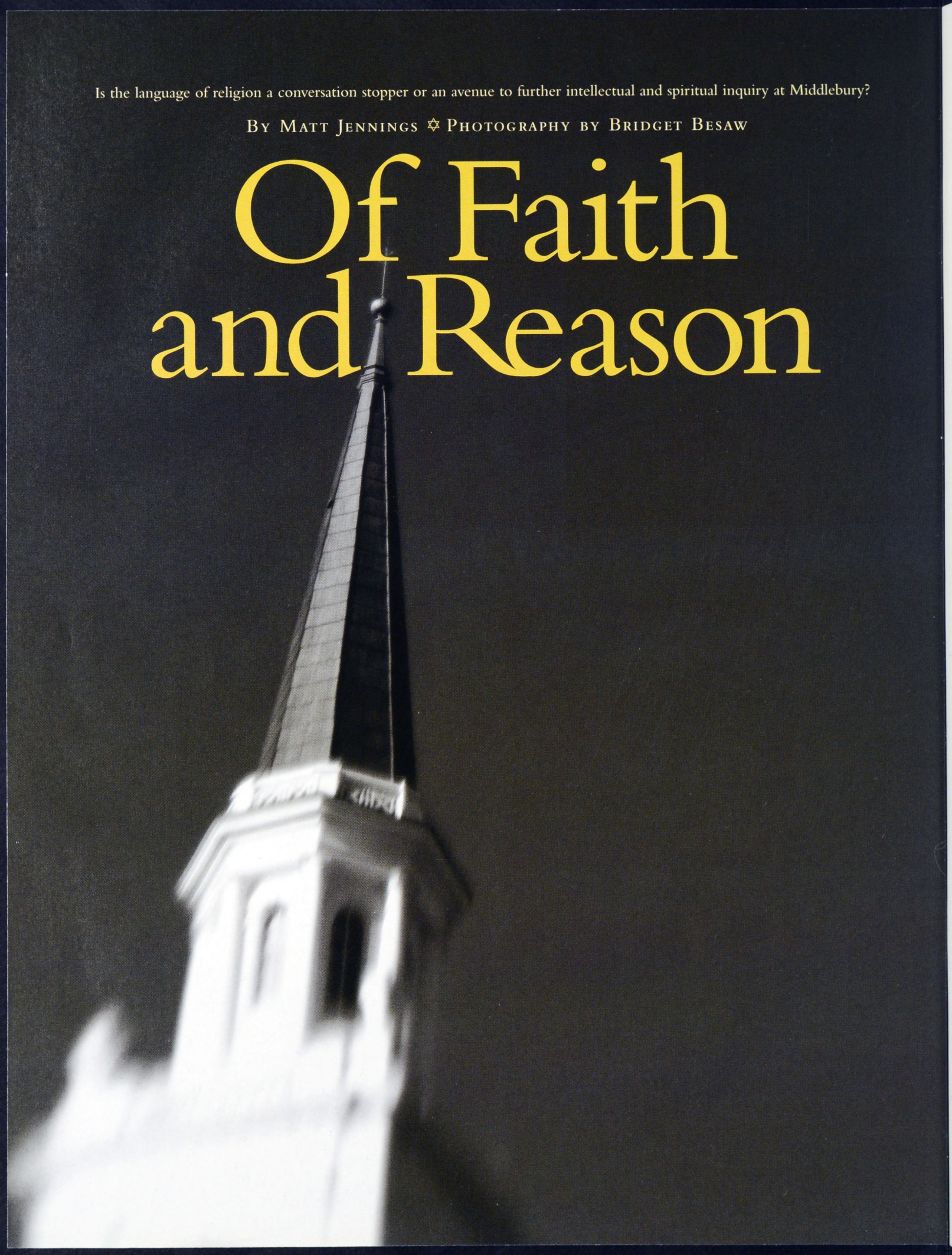
To reach Ron Liebowitz, e-mail officeofthepresident@middlebury.edu

FROZEN IN TIME
Snow, ice, blue skies, and a pristine campus lend a timeless quality to this winter scene.
Photograph by Dennis Curran

Is the language of religion a conversation stopper or an avenue to further intellectual and spiritual inquiry at Middlebury?

By Matt Jennings ✡ Photography by Bridget Besaw

Of Faith and Reason



The question seemed to hang in the air for an eternity.

"Why should anyone care?"

James Davis, an assistant professor of religion and an ordained Presbyterian minister, gazed at the students, faculty, and local clergy seated in rows of folding chairs in the garden behind the president's house. The question was directed at him, and he let the weight of the query sink in—it was, after all, why roughly 75 people had gathered at 3 South Street on a warm and sunny September afternoon—before he finally answered it.

"I think it's fairly straightforward," he said. "I believe that no less than the future of moral discourse is at stake."

For the past hour, Davis and Laura Lieber (an assistant professor of classics and religion and an ordained rabbi) had challenged the use of an expression that has roiled the waters of the so-called culture wars: the notion of a Judeo-Christian ethic—specifically, Is there one?

In back-to-back lectures at an event convened by Middlebury's Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life, the religion scholars debunked a phrase that has recurrently popped up on the airwaves, in editorials, and between hard covers of bestsellers and has been used to define "social values." And while their speaking styles differed—if you were to close your eyes during Lieber's presentation, which was laced with humor and self-deprecation, you'd swear you were listening to an NPR commentary; Davis sounded like, well, a speaker delivering a lecture from a podium—their conclusions did not diverge.

After Lieber had rejected the term as exclusionary and divisive and framed entirely from the Christian perspective, Davis concurred, stating: "I agree with Laura that the answer to the question, 'Is there a Judeo-Christian ethic' is a resounding 'No.'" It's bad history, it's bad theology, it makes no sense on either side of the hyphen, Davis continued. Later, during a question-and-answer session, Davis was asked if the phrase was so attractive because it demonstrates a moral compass. "Perhaps," he replied. "But if so, it is appealing to the lowest common denominator."

Though lots of people nodded along with Davis and Lieber, not everyone agreed. Skepticism was etched on the faces of several students, and one professor challenged Lieber's interpretation of the Ten Commandments. Still, what was not in dispute was the under-lying premise of the gathering: why the debate should be engaged at all.

In a January 2005 essay titled "One University, Under God?" in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Stanley Fish, an emeritus dean at the University of Illinois-Chicago, posited that religion would succeed "high theory and the triumvirate of race, gender, and class, as the center of intellectual energy in the academy." It is a theory that Gus Jordan does not dispute.

Jordan is the director of Middlebury's Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life, a position he has held since the center was opened in 2004. He is a slender man of medium height, has blond hair that has all but receded from his forehead, and wears oval rimless glasses. A native of Georgia, he still speaks with a soft, Southern lilt.

Jordan says that the Scott Center was created to facilitate the development and integration of religious and intellectual practices—to bring ethical and moral conversations back into the fabric of the community. "If you think about the Chaplain's Office providing a direct spiritual role with the students and the community, the Scott Center is broadening that mission to interact with the intellectual life of the College," Jordan says. (The Chaplain's Office is part of the Scott Center, and Jordan's wife, Laurie Macaulay Jordan '79, is the chaplain. It was Laurie who conceived the idea for a center for spiritual life when she assumed the role of chaplain a decade ago.) "We're cross-disciplinary, cross-divisional. Our purpose is to address the practice of faith traditions in one's life and integrate it into the intellectual life of the community." The Davis-Lieber lecture at the president's house was the first of what he hopes will be many opportunities where the Middlebury community can congregate to discuss and debate the great moral and ethical issues of the day.

Yet as Fish wrote in his essay, "it is one thing to take religion as an object of study and another to take religion seriously. To take religion seriously would be to regard it not as a phenomenon to be analyzed at arm's length, but as a candidate for truth." Jordan, who is an ordained Methodist minister and has a Ph.D. in psychology, says that his biggest challenge is to convince busy students that ethical questions impact *them*. But there is also the culture of the academy itself. In a recent survey conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles, 62 percent of college juniors nationwide reported that their professors never encouraged discussions of spirituality or religion, and 56 percent said their professors had never provided opportunities to discuss the meaning of life. It's an issue that mirrors one of society's more pertinent questions: Can religion contribute positively to moral debate or is it a conversation stopper?

"That's what college is for, right?" Jordan says, titling his head. "If we can't question convention and explore these kinds of issues *here*…."

Last fall, a task force at Harvard University recommended that the Ivy League institution revamp its undergraduate curriculum to incorporate the required study of religion. Louis Menand, the noted essayist and a professor of English and American literature at Harvard (and a co-chair of the task force), championed the proposal, telling the *Chronicle of Higher Education* that "if we're looking to help students prepare themselves to be ethical citizens for democracy and a global society—characterized by rapid change and conflicts between reason and faith and by massive social change and changes in quality of life introduced by science and technology—these are areas we want to make sure they have an understanding of…. Twenty years ago, we might not have thought it was important that students need to understand something about religion, but we felt that it is something secular universities may not be preparing students to deal with."

Justin Stearns, a visiting instructor of religion at Middlebury, couldn't agree more with Menand's assertion that the study of religion is vital to the understanding of the world around us, but he gives a little more credit to what he calls the "secular majority," which, he says "has come to terms that they need to understand the motivating force of the religious."

Of course, it's not as if the study of religion has ever been absent from higher education. Courses on the history and literature of religion (think Old Testament, metaphysical poetry) have been staples of academic curricula for generations. Now, however, many religion scholars are paying close attention to the way faith intersects with modern society.

Stearns, who specializes in Islamic thought, conducted a seminar this fall on the Qur'an. "With so much pressure being put on the text," he says, "it's exciting to be teaching it now. Yet it takes a while for the students to get comfortable, it's easy to fall back into Manichean (black and white) thinking. There's a lot in the Qur'an that does not sit right with the students. But it's my hope that we can move past this impatience, this thought of 'this is wrong,' because the Qur'an can teach us a great deal about being human—think about how many people it has influenced. The significance of the book is not words on the page but how people have given them meaning."

Toward the end of the semester, Stearn's seminar focused on the Qur'an and modernity. On a chilly afternoon in early December, the class gathered in its regular meeting place, a seminar room on the fourth floor of Old Chapel, directly above the president's office. Six students sat around a large conference table, while Stearns stood before a white dry-erase board, black marker in hand. The discussion was centered on a pair of Muslim scholars from the 19th and 20th centuries—Mohammad Abduh and Sayyid Qutb—who held opposing views on the role of Islam in the modern world.

For nearly an hour, Stearns feverishly tried to keep pace with the discussion, notating the students' thoughts and ideas on the white board—"Renaissance = Enlightenment = modernity??? ...Abduh (d. 1905) pro-modernity, Qutb (d. 1966) anti-Western, anti-modern?"—while also subtly encouraging the students to dig deeper.

"So Qutb sees parallels between the Muslim Brotherhood movement in Egypt in the 1950s and the Prophet," Stearns said. "What are the implications here? Some of them are scary."

Silence.

"Qutb found Egyptian society to be living in spiritual ignorance, right?" Stearns presses. "Why was this so?"

"Because they were caught up in modernization," one student offered.

Stearns nodded.

"Qutb is seeing emerging capitalism," the student continued, "it's Adam Smith via Marx to Said Qutb."

Stearns smiled.

Outside, snow flurries began to drift past the windows, and while Stearns and his class continued their discussion of the Qur'an in the modern world, the sight of snow drew a visitor's attention to the setting of the seminar itself and the cognitive dissonance of an intense discussion on Islam taking place in a former Christian chapel. Electric candles burned in the windows, which offered views straight out of Currier and Ives; in one, the white spire of the Congregational Church was centered perfectly in the window's frame.

A few days later, James Davis, the religion professor who spoke at the president's house, convened the final meeting of his course on religious ethics. It was a few minutes before 8 o'clock on a Monday morning, and students were slowly trickling in to the Gifford Hall classroom. With the enthusiasm of a coach, a clapping Davis exhorted—"*Let's go! Let's go!*"—the last few stragglers to hustle into the room before he shut the door.

"OK," he began. "We spent the whole semester looking at the range of Christian, Jewish, and Islamic perspectives on moral issues; hopefully by now there's no way for you to say 'the Christian perspective on abortion is _____.' Now I want to talk about the role of religion in the public moral debate. It's an issue of critical importance in the American experience."

Despite the early hour, Davis was brimming with energy and his dynamism quickly awakened what moments before had been a sleepy bunch of students.

"What's the religion clause of the First Amendment?" he asked.

After some shuffling of papers, a student in the back read aloud: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

"Right," Davis said, before adding theatrically, "Wait a minute. You missed something. Where were the words 'separation of church and state'?" Feigning surprise, he continued: "What, it's not in there?"

The class chuckled.

"It's not in there because the term 'separation of church and state' does not occur in the First Amendment," Davis said. "That phrase did not enter the American lexicon until Thomas Jefferson included it in a letter to the Danbury Baptist Association in 1802. And the point to this is, the First Amendment seems to dictate the protection of free expression and the prohibition of government from imposing a state religion on the people."

After establishing that the Framers of the Constitution had never explicitly proscribed the intermingling of religion and politics, Davis laid out a series of arguments both for and against the exclusion of religion in politics (For: You can't legislate morality; against: excluding religion robs public morality of valuable insight). Glancing at the clock, which showed that it was near the top of the hour, he began to wrap up: "So, what are our options? On the one hand, the esteemed political philosopher John Rawls suggests that religious reasons are not broad enough to consider when arguing for or against a political position. And I've just made three compelling arguments for why religion should be excluded from politics. But if religion and politics is wrong, what do we make of this?"

As he asks this final question, Davis punches a few buttons on the podium at the front of the room. The lights dim, a screen drops down in front of the blackboard, and a projector mounted on the ceiling whirs to life.

And there on the screen is Martin Luther King, Jr., standing in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial.

"I have a dream today."

James Davis is sitting at a table in the Juice Bar and is talking about how he came to be teaching religion at a liberal arts school. The fall semester has ended, and he's taking a break from grading papers, but if he's tired or worn out, you'd never know it. There's an All-American- Everyman-quality to Davis, whose boyish face, somewhat goofy sense of humor, and way of speaking calls to mind the actor Tom Hanks. He's the first in his family to graduate from college, and he always assumed he'd go into the ministry—in fact, after earning a master's in divinity, he spent five years in the pastoral ministry while a doctoral student at the University of Virginia. However, he found that he was more interested in teaching and decided to pursue a faculty position in a seminary. "I assumed that was how I'd connect my ecclesiastical loyalties with a desire to teach," he said, but then he learned of a position in the religion department at Middlebury, teaching American religious history.

"For a person who was thinking about going into the ministry…." The sentence trails off as Davis laughs, but the implication is clear. A liberal arts school in Vermont where secularism is predominant is a long way from a House of God, but Davis adds, "I can't imagine being anywhere else. In a sense, Middlebury is a microcosm of society. In class, we study the role of religion in public debates, and a great place to start is right."

"I think students seem quite free and courageous to express their views in class. Outside, it's a little harder for them to find their voice. There are cultural reasons for this. There's an ethos associated with academe, generally, and liberal arts schools, specifically, that leads to an intolerance of views rooted in faith."

A number of people who were interviewed for this story expressed a similar sentiment, which speaks to the core mission of Gus Jordan's efforts at the Scott Center and reflects Stanley Fish's contention that legitimizing the study of religion is one thing; welcoming religious viewpoints into campus discussions and debates is something else entirely.

Marie Lucci '08 is a Spanish and religion major, and she serves as the president of the Newman Club, the Catholic student organization. Lucci says that she goes through periods when she feels comfortable talking about her faith and periods when she doesn't. "There are places where I feel so comfortable—within the religion department, among other people of faith. But in other situations, if people are less informed about and therefore less sensitive to the importance of religion in someone's life, then religion is dismissed. Many of those times I feel that Catholicism, especially, is stereotyped. I've had people come up to me and say, 'You're Catholic? But you're so normal.'

"But the potential is there," to really engage the larger questions of faith and values, she adds. "Middlebury seems to be saying, 'We want to empower people to tackle these issues.' But it's on us to do it."

Karina Arrue '07 is an English major from Jersey City, New Jersey. For her senior project, she is examining the role religion and spirituality plays in the lives of students at Middlebury. Arrue is also a devout Christian and says that before she arrived at Middlebury she had never really thought about how her faith, along with her mind, could inform her stance on issues, such as the environment and foreign affairs. "I simply assumed as a Christian, I was supposed to think a certain way," she wrote on her blog, *Upsurge: Contemplations of Religious Life at Middlebury*. "I was shocked when not all the Christians I met on campus shared the same point of view on such key issues. It's really uncomfortable when you find that things are not as you always thought they should be."

"A certain level of discomfort is healthy," Arrue says when asked about this notation in her blog. "But that doesn't make it easy." Like Lucci, she says there have been times when she's censored herself when issues of faith come up in conversation—"I find myself walking on eggshells not to say something to stop the conversation"—but she'll be the first to say that this aversion to conflict doesn't serve the larger purpose of engaging the community. "It's in the conflict of confrontation where prejudices are exposed," she says, "but that can be a good thing. Because once something is exposed, it can be addressed. Until then, it's just hidden. And it can breed resentment."

Sometimes an event occurs when an issue looms so large that the community would be derelict not to address it. Take the controversy surrounding the 2005 publication in a Danish newspaper of a series of editorial cartoons depicting the prophet Muhammad. The initial reaction was muted, but when the cartoons were reprinted in other newspapers around the world, protests ensued, including many violent demonstrations in the Middle East. At Middlebury, a group of students, including several members of the Islamic Society, organized a panel discussion to facilitate conversation about the controversy.

Febe Armanios, an assistant professor of history who specializes in the Middle East, moderated the panel. She remembers the early March day as one of those days when it was really cold outside, but broiling inside. The room in the Robert A. Jones '59 House was packed, with people lining the back wall and sitting on the floor.

Armanios gave a brief opening presentation in which she gave the background of the controversy, and then she opened the floor for discussion.

"Of all the panels I've done since I've been here, it was the most uncomfortable yet engaging," Armanios says. "It got heated at times. People came at the issue from extreme points of view, both in condemning the publication and defending it. "I thought it was one of those issues where it was important to be critical of all sides, but I can see how from a belief standpoint, this could be hard."

For all the discomfort, Armanios says, it's critical if Middlebury is to be a place that welcomes debate. "I think there's an interest to sustain it, but there's an incumbency on the student body—a diverse student body—to make it happen."

Gus Jordan expects the College's Religious Life Council to play a leading role in furthering such efforts. Comprised of members of various religious organizations on campus, the Religious Life Council has evolved from a club of students interested in interfaith efforts to a leadership organization committed to addressing moral issues, says Chaplain Laurie Jordan.

This year, the Council worked with the Scott Center and the Chaplain's Office to organize a Religious Life Awareness month at Middlebury—the first time such an event had unfolded over the course of an entire month (previous awareness events were weeklong affairs). More than 1,000 people participated in programs ranging from a symposium on social justice to prayer group meetings. Afterward, Associate Chaplain Ira Schiffer said that he felt that the monthlong event did a great job in furthering interfaith understanding. He pointed out that in December, members of the College's Jewish organization, Hillel, joined with the Christian fellowship organization, in promoting and attending each other's weekly meetings.

Yet this interfaith commingling shouldn't come as much of a surprise. Marie Lucci, the Newman president, says that she feels much more comfortable talking about her faith with others of faith, regardless of their religion. "Sometimes I need the comfort of being in a religious community." Though Catholic, Lucci attends Hillel meetings just about every week—"I see a lot of similarities between the Catholic and Jewish liturgies"—and one of her closest friends is Rachel Bearman '08, a co-president of Hillel. Over lunch recently, the two spoke passionately about what it means to be a person of faith at Middlebury—Bearman was so involved in the conversation that she didn't touch her hamburger over the course of an hour—and they both agreed that interfaith relations on campus were vibrant and strong.

Schiffer agrees. "There's a strong sense of support and camaraderie among the various religious organizations. And, in a sense, I think our office has been programming for our core group—the religious groups on campus. But that's changing."

Each fall, incoming first-years participate in a comprehensive survey, a portion of which measures religious beliefs. Over the past five years or so, about 30 percent of all first-years have indicated that they have no religious preference. (This year's incoming class was slightly higher, with 39 percent responding that they had no religious preference.) These percentages are twice the national average of around 15 percent of matriculating freshmen who indicated they did not have a religious preference.

Schiffer says that the September 11 terrorist attacks sparked somewhat of a spiritual awakening at Middlebury. But still, he says, the College remains "an areligious, secular, and at times anti-religious place." If the mission of the Scott Center is to succeed—and if Stanley Fish's premise that religion will truly be the center of intellectual energy in the academy—boundaries will need to be stretched, beliefs challenged, and a ethos of inquiry embraced. "There's too much at stake not to strive for this," Schiffer says.

Sitting at his desk one December afternoon, he spins around to face his computer so he can read an Umberto Eco quote that perfectly illustrates this position.

"Only educational institutions, among them universities, are still the places where mutual confrontation and discussion and better ideas for a better world can be found," Schiffer reads. "In my wildest dreams, there is the image of the academic milieu where even the most insolvable problems of our time can be peacefully discussed."

"Worth striving for," Schiffer says, "don't you think?"

Many students of different faiths and beliefs were interviewed for this story. Due to space constraints, not all appear in "Of Faith and Reason." These stories can be found at www.middleburymagazine.org

Russ Leng's Mid

On the eve of his retirement, a longtime political science professor and Middlebury alum riffs on fraternities, anxiety dreams, the Vietnam era, and the perils of missing a scheduled exam.

My scariest moment as a Middlebury undergraduate began on a sunny May afternoon in my sophomore year, not long after I arrived at the Field House to take my last final exam. (All final exams were proctored in the Field House in those days, and seats were assigned.) As I scanned the bulletin board to find my seat, not only could I not find my name, I could find no mention of the course. I had arrived at the wrong time; the exam had been given that morning. I dashed off to find the instructor, only to be told that he was out of town. I soon found myself attempting to explain the situation to an unimpressed department chair. Finally, he looked up from filling his pipe and told me that he did not see what the problem was. The exam had been given at the appointed time; I did not take it; therefore I would receive a grade of zero. As I left his office, my imagination conjured up a bleak image of the future. I would fail the course, I would lose my scholarship, I would be forced to leave Middlebury, and then what? Disaster was averted by the intervention of the dean of men, who allowed me to take a makeup exam. But the last thing that would have occurred to me on that day was a future of 40 years of teaching at Middlebury College.

d-Life Experience

A BOY WHO IS REPEATEDLY CALLED "THE ABSENTMINDED PROFESSOR" by a mother exasperated by his daydreaming is not likely to view college teaching as a glamorous profession. But I liked school, and I remember back in grammar school telling my father that I would like to be a teacher someday. To my innocent mind, teaching did not look like work, at least not the kind that took place in the business world, and there were those nice long holidays, not to mention having the summer off. Today it seems natural that I ultimately became a teacher; that I ended up as a professor at Middlebury had more to do with luck.

When I began looking at colleges, my father suggested Middlebury as one of a number of what he called "good New England liberal arts colleges." My interest was piqued when I noticed that Middlebury was coed and had its own ski area. I applied, and during the spring recess of my senior year, a high school friend and I headed north from New Jersey to visit Middlebury and Dartmouth, and to do some skiing. It was going to be a great adventure, especially as neither one of us knew how to ski. We got as far as Connecticut before we had to turn back because the absent-minded professor had forgotten his ski boots. It was the first of many missteps along the way. We frequently got lost; I did not get an interview at either school; and our attempt to ski at the Snow Bowl was derailed by a wrong turn in Ripton. Nevertheless, after a one-on-one campus tour by a genial retired professor, Middlebury became my first choice. My mother liked to tell her friends that her son was admitted to the college of his choice, "a nice liberal arts school in Vermont, with skiing and girls."

I arrived on campus in September 1956 with two suitcases and a radio. (Today most students arrive with U-Haul trucks.) My two roommates were an outgoing and idealistic Vermonter and a wordly-wise preppie from Massachusetts. I happily discovered that I was not as ill-prepared for college as I feared—or as my prep-school-trained roommate told me I was. But, beyond the first few lines of the *Canterbury Tales*, which all freshmen were required to memorize, I remember little about my courses that year. My most vivid memory of my first course in political science—the field that would be my major and career choice—was that of mooning over the upperclasswoman who sat next to me. She knitted her way through the lectures, seemingly unaware that there was anyone at all sitting to her left. My major triumph that year was winning $15 by placing second in a public-speaking contest. (There were three entries.)

ILLUSTRATION BY MICHELLE CHANG

One professor tried to start an "anti-apathy" movement, but it died from lack of interest.

The sexes were geographically separated by a fault line that ran down the center of College Street, which was patrolled by the College's single security officer. The women were on the wrong side of the street, insofar as social freedom was concerned. Outside of the classroom, men were on their own, although the *Handbook* specified that we were responsible for the consequences of our actions, "drunk or sober." The women were shackled with petty restrictions, including "parietal hours." Women had to be back in their dorm rooms by 10:00 P.M. during the week, and 11:00 on weekends. (Today most college parties do not get under way until after 10:00.) I remember the sad incident of a classmate who sneaked into his girlfriend's room on the second floor of Pearson Hall, only to find himself trapped there after hours. He decided to make a dash for the exit out the front door by holding a blanket over his head to avoid being recognized by the dorm mother, who sat at a desk at the base of the staircase. He managed to race down the stairs without tripping but, when he reached the lobby, the blanket blinded his vision. He missed the door, hit the wall, and knocked himself unconscious.

It was also the era of compulsory chapel and Saturday morning classes. Both were failures. Students brought reading material to Sunday evening chapel services, and there was a thriving black market in the cards that were handed out to certify attendance. Attendance at Saturday classes was not much better, with some male student attendees too hung over to function. Heavy drinking and its consequences, including deadly automobile accidents on trips back from New York state, where the drinking age was lower, were major problems. Too many former classmates who were heavy party drinkers in college later became alcoholics.

My father died shortly before Christmas of my freshman year. He had little life insurance and no retirement benefits. Family friends advised me to drop out of college, get a job, and consider night school. But the College came through with a full-tuition scholarship and campus jobs. It was then that I began to think of Middlebury as part of my extended family. One of my benefactors was the fraternity that I joined during that year, DKE, which provided the waiter's job that covered my room and board.

Fraternities dominated Middlebury's social scene in those days and, as on all campuses, they were a mixed blessing. Their worst feature was that they were inherently discriminatory, although some of the Middlebury frats fought and, in the case of my own, won battles with their national organizations to admit minority students. Middlebury's fraternities were no different from those on other campuses in encouraging boorish male behavior, particularly toward women. But they also provided a supportive family atmosphere where maturing young men could relax and feel socially secure. In an era when there were scant student support services, we relied on each other.

It was a male-dominated era in general. Outside of a few language instructors, the faculty consisted of white males of varying competency. But Middlebury had its share of star teachers and, it seemed, more than its share of characters. I was particularly in awe of a gruff, shambling, chain-smoking English professor nicknamed "Beowulf." I glowed with pride when he mentioned me by name to my classmates one day, even if it was to single me out as a holder of radical views because I once parroted a theory of the French Revolution, which I had picked up from my history professor. It was not unusual for one professor to comment on the views of another, usually in a lighthearted way. One of the most wonderful characters to grace the faculty was Arthur K. D. Healy, an accomplished watercolorist who also taught art history. Once, when showing a slide of an ancient statue of a centaur, he remarked to the class that he used to keep a pair of centaurs on his farm to help with the spring plowing. Unfortunately, he said, Professor Hitchcock, in biology, told him that there was no such thing as a centaur, so he had to let them go. On another occasion, Healy came to class with his fly half open. When he noticed some giggling, he glanced down and said, "Oh, I was in a bit of a hurry this morning." He continued the lecture without zipping-up any farther. Legend has it that he did not do so for the rest of the day. That, in our eyes, was the epitome of cool.

Despite my chosen field, I was not politically active during those days; few of us were. One professor tried to start an "anti-apathy" movement, but it died from lack of interest. To the extent to which there was a counterculture, it identified with the Beats, especially with Kerouac and pot. Rejection of the power structure was expressed by withdrawal, or finding a way to beat the system, as opposed to trying to change it. The atmosphere did not change until Kennedy's election in 1960. By then I was on my way to Taiwan, as an ROTC second lieutenant. It was there that I got my first taste of teaching. I found that even lecturing to sleepy enlisted men on the military code of conduct could be stimulating. After seeking the advice of my favorite Middlebury professors, I applied to graduate school.

Middlebury was a different place when I returned six years later. I had been working at the Congressional Research Service and finishing my Ph.D., when I happened to run into the political science chair, my former teacher, Harris Thurber. He suggested that I apply for a one-year leave replacement position that

was becoming available. I did so, although the position in political philosophy was outside of my international politics specialty. A week before I was interviewed, however, the department interviewed and decided on another, better qualified, candidate. My visit was politely endured, and I returned to Washington, determined to put Middlebury out of my mind. But then luck, in the form of the preferred candidate's draft board, intervened on my side. I was hired for one year at a salary of $7,700.

The night before my first class, I dreamed that my graduate adviser was sitting in the back of the classroom. As I began to lecture, he started nudging students and passing notes. Soon he had everyone laughing uproariously. Then, shaking his head, he left the room, with the rest of the class following him. The dream stayed with me the next morning as I headed to breakfast, where I nervously spilled a glass of pineapple juice on my new wool pants. When I finally arrived at Sunderland Auditorium, I found myself standing on a stage and looking out at 120 expectant students. It was the Vietnam era and I was teaching the first class in international politics that had been given in several years. But as soon as I began the lecture, the nervousness evaporated.

That year, I discovered the demands of college teaching, like teaching at any level, are a far cry from the easy life I had imagined back in grammar school. During my first year I was up late most nights, trying to keep my lectures one step ahead of the student reading. It got easier after that, but the frequent holidays and long summers were consumed by research projects, which generated their own deadlines. On the other hand, I found that teaching was even more exhilarating than I had imagined it would be. Someone once said that true teachers feel more alive in the classroom than anywhere else. It was true in my case. That spring, the administration decided to make my position permanent to meet the demand for courses in international politics. I was back to stay.

During the Vietnam era, there was no need for an "anti-apathy" movement. Students had strong feelings about American foreign policy, and they did not hesitate to express them in class. Some students would stand when offering comments in my foreign policy classes—not to show respect, but to be on equal footing. The students even had the audacity to publish preregistration booklets evaluating courses and the faculty teaching them. The evaluations made for gossipy, if not always enlightening, reading. The evaluation for a course on Shakespeare's tragedies, for example, rated the professor as "excellent," but the readings as merely "average." The faculty soon took over the course evaluations, which are now confidential.

Saturday classes, mandatory chapel, and parietal hours for women were eliminated. Fraternities went into a steady and irreversible decline, less from administration pressure than from lack of student interest. I found myself on committees to consider the implementation of coed dorms and the future, or lack of it, of ROTC on campus. Whatever opinions one may have of these changes, there is no doubt that they reflected a degree of self-confidence and a willingness to adapt to change on the part of the College leadership, as well as the students, which was absent back in my student days. It was the beginning of a pattern of steady growth in quality that has made my career on the Middlebury faculty so rewarding.

Whatever nostalgia I have for the Middlebury of my student or early faculty days, today's Middlebury is a better place. Today it would be hard to think of what more a student could desire in terms of academic, social, and psychological support services, physical luxuries, entertainment, and opportunities for challenges, intellectual as well as outside of the classroom. The size, quality, and diversity of the faculty have grown with the rest of the College. Although the faculty is more professional, both in attitude and scholarly accomplishments, teaching remains its highest priority.

People often ask me to compare Middlebury students today with when I first joined the faculty. I sometimes miss the feistiness of the students of the sixties, and I think that the best of my students from those days compare favorably with the best of today's students. But overall there has been a steady upward trend in the talent and motivation of Middlebury students. Today's students also seem to be very happy about being here. That was not always true when I was an undergraduate, or even in the sixties. The increased diversity is another plus. My courses have attracted a lot of international students, who provide a welcome additional perspective to discussions of international issues, as well as being exceptional students.

Today's students still have some of the same problems that we faced back in my student days. Binge drinking remains a problem on campus, and an unfortunate side effect of women's liberation is that now it affects more women. Despite the diversity of the student body, there is not as much integration among groups as one would wish. I also have the feeling that some of our most talented students are so obsessed with building credentials for the next step in their career path that they fail to appreciate the intrinsic joy of learning. But on balance, it would be hard to find a more attractive group of young men and women. Working with them has been the best part of a wonderful career, and it has gotten better as the years have passed.

Last May I gave my last international politics exam. It was in my introductory international politics class, a course that I had been teaching for 40 years, and it happened to be in the same Munroe lecture hall where I took my first political science course half a century ago. Afterward, as I sat at my desk sorting through the exams, there was an anxious knock on my office door. A flustered student entered the office and approached my desk. He had managed to get the time wrong and missed the exam. After listening to his woeful explanation, I slowly looked up at him and said, "How about taking it at 11:00."

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The Voyage of the Tern

So a group of young alums decide to build a wooden boat and sail it from the Pacific Northwest to Alaska. Crazy? Bold? Naive? Confident? All of the above?

By Ben Gore

The *Tern*, her yellow cedar frames gleaming under deep blue skies, slid slowly from behind the sheltering lee of Malcolm Island. I stood on the aft bench, my hand on the tiller, and looked north towards the gray water of Queen Charlotte Strait, which separated us from mainland British Columbia.

Six of us were onboard the boat—a 24-foot-long wooden vessel we had built over the course of a year—and at that moment, the afternoon was sunny and warm, and all was right in our world. Isaac Pattis '05, his big Greek face growing darker as the summer progressed, was kneading bread dough in our cast iron Dutch oven. Becca Leaphart '03 was reading aloud to us from Steinbeck. Terray Sylvester '05, our willowy, wild-bearded mountain man, was minding the sails with Cedar Charnley, a dark, wiry fellow from Evergreen College. Ben Brouwer '04, the expedition leader, dozed amidships.

It was mid-June, several weeks after we had set sail from the San Juan Islands, and we were slowly making our way along the Canadian coast via the Inside Passage—bound for Ketchikan, Alaska. White caps bubbled cheerily out in the strait—a wide-open space of ten nautical miles without any shelter—and I gazed ahead, blissfully ignoring what those whitecaps foretold.

A minute later, we left the last of the island's shelter, and the wind immediately picked up, blowing strongly and steadily in our faces. The boat began to heel. Lazy afternoon activities came to a quick halt, as the crew scrambled to duty, trimming the sails and shifting weight to keep the *Tern* upright.

Within five minutes, what had been flat calm seas was now rough water, with waves three feet (and rising) pummeling the boat. The tide was going out, which meant all of the water from the myriad fjords and channels was flowing north out to sea; a new moon meant the ebb was at its most powerful.. The wind was blowing against the water, tearing it to a violent chop. A gust hit

Photographs by Ben Brouwer and Isaac Pattis

our already straining sails, and the rail nearly went under. I gave Brouwer the tiller; my four weeks of sailing experience were not sufficient to keep the *Tern* on course (or upright for that matter).

Crawling forward toward the yawing and pitching bow of our open vessel, I retrieved my wetsuit and pulled it on. On top of that went my clothes, then a jacket, then plastic foul weather gear (affectionately dubbed "foulies" by the Northwesterners on our crew), then my life jacket. The others were pulling on rain clothes. I made my way aft, where Brouwer was straining at the tiller as the waves batted us about. There was a commotion next to me and suddenly the rudder was floating free in the water. (We had designed a catch to keep the wood rudder from floating off its open hinges, and I had been charged with machining this little bronze mechanism. Normally, I would have been deathly embarrassed by my substandard craftsmanship, but there was no time.)

Brouwer took full command, as we had discussed back on land. He barked orders, more like a drill sergeant than the dancer he is. Cedar, who has sailed ships many orders of magnitude larger than the *Tern*, took charge of steering the boat into the wind and waves, using the sails like a windsurfer.

The seas rose to four feet, and Cedar struggled to keep us in line; turning broadside to the waves now might have swamped or capsized the boat. With the sea heaving beneath us, Brouwer and I wrestled the rudder back into place. When it was on, I leaned far overboard with a pair of pliers to wrench the catch—just a little tab of bronze held into the soft wood with a single wood screw—back into shape. We could steer again, but the wind was still rising, the masts were bowing visibly, and white water was crashing over the bow.

Strangely, it never crossed our minds to turn around and return to our friends in Alert Bay, a little town just a few miles south. Although we were only halfway into our 42-day voyage from

Washington to Alaska, we had on this day run aground, had a brutally honest discussion about the expedition's leadership, and rowed feverishly through treacherous rapids just to get this far—all before three in the afternoon. And while the air temperature was in the seventies and the sky a brilliant blue, I was already soaking wet. With the wind blowing over the cold water, I began to shiver.

Brouwer hollered the order to reef—to shorten the sails to reduce the strain on the boat. Terray and Cedar dropped the sheets (the lines that control the sails) and suddenly we could hear nothing but agitated Dacron (the nylon canvas that has supplanted cotton and hemp). We worked smoothly, aware that mistakes here had very real consequences. Cold, swollen, salt-pruned fingers untied and retied bowline knots, hauled the halyards (the lines which raise and lower the sails) taut, sheeted in the sails. The uproarious crackling of loose sailcloth quieted.

Yet the wind kept rising—up to twenty miles an hour—and the waves got bigger. Spare wooden parts floated in standing water beneath the floorboards and clanked against the hull. Because the *Tern* doesn't have a deck (it sits just eighteen inches out the water, fully loaded), five-foot waves rear above her menacingly. The pounding seas kept knocking us off course, killing our momentum when we tried to turn through the wind and complicating our attempts to avoid swamping. If the boat filled with water, there would be no way to empty it.

We reefed again, down to as little sail area as possible, balancing the need for power with the strain on the boat. The waves came in occasional bigger sets now, big enough to completely stop our tiny vessel. Brouwer yelled for Cedar to take over, exhausted from his battle with the tiller.

It had become clear that there was a distinct possibility that the masts could snap and the boat would swamp. I glanced around. No one else was wearing a wetsuit. In water as cold as the northern Pacific, the muscles will only work for a minute or two. If the boat went over, I would be the only person able to work to right it.

The Hunter Bay Boat Project sprang from the restless mind of Ben Brouwer. A native of the earthy, rural enclave of Lopez Island, Washington, Brouwer is a veteran of 6,000 miles of bicycle touring, a semester at sea, and myriad elaborate pranks. In the year after graduation, he moved to Providence, Rhode Island, with his girlfriend, Becca Leaphart, but he was restless. He considered heading down to Newport to hang around the docks, looking for passage to the Caribbean as a deckhand, but the pull of his native Pacific Northwest—with its deep forests, dark waters, and looming mountains—was too strong and eventually he decamped for home.

He had designs on an expedition through the fjords and islands of the Inside Passage, a protected waterway stretching from Puget Sound in Washington to Glacier Bay in Alaska. There, the coastal mountain ranges tumble into the Pacific Ocean, and the resulting archipelagos form a maze of narrow channels sheltered from the powerful swells of the North Pacific. Human settlements have existed along this band for as long as people have inhabited North America, but neither the First Nations nor the European usurpers have managed to crowd it much. It is a rugged, wild, and empty stretch of coast, 1,500 miles long, filled with bears, old growth cedars, and rocky shores.

Never content to do things the easy way, Brouwer envisioned a journey without internal combustion. All power would be provided by wind on sailcloth and oar on seawater. Because the crew would need to row, there couldn't be a cabin; the necessary ballast would make the boat too heavy. Rowing also meant it would have to be large enough to seat all the necessary muscle power. So Brouwer asked his father, Steven, where he might find a suitable craft. Being a wooden boatbuilder, Steven suggested that the crew could build its own, thereby making the whole endeavor that much more adventurous.

I landed squarely in the middle of this scheming when I swung south from Vermont to Rhode Island in the winter of 2005 to visit Brouwer and Becca. I was acutely aware that I would soon be adrift in the post-graduation doldrums, so I jumped aboard without hesitation. It was of little matter that I knew nothing about boats or sailing. The chance to do something bold, live with good friends, and explore a wondrous new place was more than enough incentive to downplay my ignorance.

Later that winter, seven of us descended on Lee Purlow's homestead in Waltham, Vermont, where reggae hummed from the stereo as we sat around his octagonal living room and planned our adventure.

Present were Isaac Pattis, a passionate giant with a love of English literature who, at six foot seven inches, stood more than a head taller than anyone else; the whip thin, wall-climbing Zen lunatic Terray Sylvester, his gaunt frame topped by a mop of unruly blond hair; Lee Purlow, heavily bearded, dark haired, and short, more of a mountaineer than sailor, and a computer nerd to boot; Lee's willowy, quiet girlfriend, Nicki Morris '04; Becca Leaphart, an actress and educator, keeper of journals, and perhaps the most creative in the group; and, of course, there was Brouwer, a modern dancer, photographer, cyclist, and purveyor of radical geographic theories. (Missing were Alana Sagin '04, who would have been sitting quietly in the corner waiting for the chance to murmur a very dirty joke under her breath, and Cedar Charnley, a woodworker, singer of chanties, and the other elfin offspring of Lopez Island.)

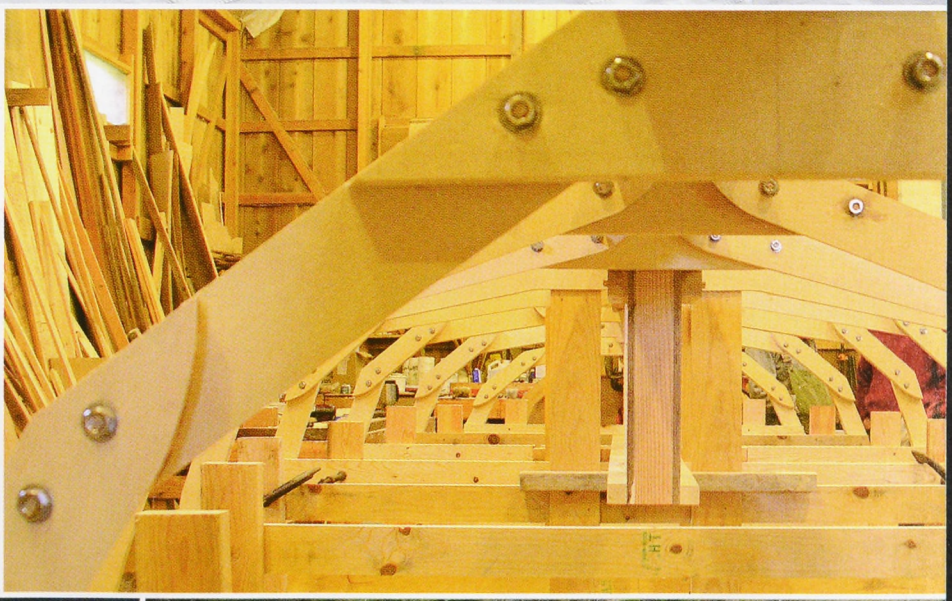
Eight people would participate at any one time. (Finding the communal life in Washington State was not for them, Lee Purlow and Nicki Morris left in late July.) We would camp on the Brouwer sheep farm on Lopez and live communally. Four people at a time would work in the shop, with Steven as instructor, building the boat. Four people would labor on the farm to repay Steven

Tern, Tern, Tern

Above, Left, Right, and Below: Over the course of eight months, the *Tern* evolved from an idea into a sea-worthy vessel. And a handsome one, at that.

Log On

Below right: Over time, the *Tern* crew proved adept at salvaging. This 34-foot old-growth douglas fir was turned into a raft, which the sailors used to putter around Lopez Island. Pictured, left to right: Cedar Charnley, Becca Leaphart '03, Ben Gore '04, Nick Gehling, and Isaac Patti '05.



for his time. The groups would switch every two weeks. When the boat was done we would sail to Alaska and back.

Which is how I found myself on the passenger deck of the *M/V Yakima* with Pattis in June as the ferry cut through the coastal fog en route to the San Juan Islands. South of the city of Vancouver and east of Vancouver Island, Lopez Island is the first stop on the westward journey from the mainland at Anacortes, Washington, ninety miles north of Seattle. It is just one of the hundreds of shaggy islands in the San Juan Archipelago, lodged in a pocket of dark water on the Canadian border north of Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. In the first half of the 1900s, Lopez was a prosperous fishing and farming community. Then the salmon population went into decline and big agribusiness made small farms less tenable. The early 1970s saw an influx of young people moving to the country to get back to the land, to live peacefully and communally, to grow food and work in wood. Now the economic base of the islands has shifted to tourism and second homes, the economy propped up by affluent Seattle. Much has changed since the Brouwer family moved to Lopez in 1983, while many things—independent artisans, locally harvested food, back-to-the-earth labor—remain the same.

On the *Yakima's* passenger deck, Brouwer bounded up to me wearing preposterously huge pants (he was fresh off the plane from performing an interpretive dance routine in New York City), and he greeted me with a huge bear hug. When the boat docked, we jumped into my truck and drove south, towards Hunter Bay.

The *Tern*, as she came to be called, is based on a long tradition of Scandinavian and British boat-building. The design was a custom drawing by yacht designer Tad Roberts of Gabriola Island, British Columbia, based on the long boats designed by the famous British boatwright, John Watkinson. Twenty-four feet long and seven feet wide at the widest point, the *Tern* is made entirely of wood. The frames and benches are cut from the yellow cedar trees of the Olympic Peninsula; most of the planks are mahogany plywood from Africa. The hull was constructed using lapstrake planking, which means the planks overlap each other, rather than butting together at the edges. The rig—the sails and their support—is a turn-of-the-century style gaff-rigged ketch: there are two masts, the larger one in front, and a second boom up high to give the sail four sides. When Captain George Vancouver explored and surveyed the Pacific Northwest, he used boats very much like the *Tern*.

Over the course of three months, we puzzled, drew, sawed, drilled, and bolted. We cooked, cut barbed wire, drank beer, and picked and ate sugarsnap peas. We rowed a little dory over to Friday Harbor, on the next island, to retrieve a modem.

And slowly, the skeleton of a boat grew. After two weeks of struggle, the first planks went on, and then after a few more weeks another set of planks and then another. Brilliant summer faded into a moody fall. Soon there was school to attend, rain to escape, and jobs to work.

People began to drift away. Terray was already long gone, departed for more education in Vermont. Alana left soon afterwards to work on med school applications in Santa Fe. I returned to the East Coast in October, followed shortly thereafter by Isaac, who decamped to Connecticut. Becca managed to stay into December, before retreating to her native Montana, leaving just Brouwer and Cedar, to continue building.

In Steven's woodshop lay the *Tern*, a skeleton with half its skin off, growing slowly, piece by piece, waiting for the spring.

THE *Tern* WAS BUCKING MORE WAVES, my teeth were chattering, and my wetsuit was soaked. A log, as big as a telephone pole, surfed past us, followed by another and another—a virtual horizontal forest threatening to batter a hole in the Tern's planking. Cedar steered deftly through the maze of wood. And then as quickly as the log onslaught had begun, it stopped. The logs were caught in an eddy line created by Broughton Island, and we were on the far side of Queen Charlotte Strait. We cruised slowly into Cockatrice Bay, adrenaline at an ebb, and scanned the densely wooded shore for a place to tie up. The forest was far thicker and more deeply green than on Vancouver Island sixteen miles south, but soon we saw a landing spot and approached the shore. That night we grilled a salmon and slept deeply.

For the next five days we inched up the northern coast of Queen Charlotte Strait towards Cape Caution, where the protecting barrier islands of the passage give way for fifteen miles. (There the waves fetch all the way from Japan and smash themselves on the sand of Burnett Beach.) The two days following our crossing we got ourselves caught in dangerously strong north winds again, so strong that at one point we couldn't make any forward progress at all. But eventually we caught on. In foul weather, the seas around Cape Caution can build monstrously high—as high as the lighthouse on the cliffs of nearby Egg Island—but we rounded it in a quiet, deep fog with long low swells ten feet high gentle as a rocking cradle.

The days blew away in the wind. Skin peeled from our hands. Migrating gray whales breeched around the *Tern*. The salmon began to run, and we started to see eagles soaring above the shoreline by the dozen. Smacks of jellyfish—ten thousand strong—drifted in the fjords. One night we kept on rowing, well after sunset, when the water began to glow a fluorescent pale green. We began to sing old Kwa'kwakiwak canoe chants and rowed until our arms gave out.

A few days later, Ben Gore would return to his life on the East Coast, but not before standing on the deck of a cannery manager's boat and watching his friends pilot the Tern *through Revillagigado Channel toward Alaska's Misty Fjords.*

The Tern *would eventually circumnavigate Revillagagido Island, before embarking on the return journey southward. Back in the Gulf Islands, she sailed in the Shipyard School Raid, a revival of the old European tradition of racing with small workboats. The Raid, sponsored by Tad Roberts, who designed the* Tern, *finishes at the annual wooden boat festival in Port Townsend, Washington, where the* Tern *was a big hit and everyone partied like rock stars. Or rather pirates. Or pirate rock stars.*

The crew has now dispersed, and the Tern *lies in dry dock on the Brouwer farm on Lopez Island, awaiting more adventures in other summers.*

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Class Action

PERFORMING ART
Lynn Jennings '65 has been breathing life into inanimate objects for more than four decades—to the benefit of audiences far and wide.
Photograph by Max S. Gerber

The Puppet Master

For Lynn Jennings '65, pulling strings is simply a way of life.

By Cynthia Jenson-Elliott

From the looks of her, the woman must be in her mid-80s—and no AARP model for elderly wellness, either. Her shoulders are hunched and her walk is more of a shuffle, clumsy black shoes trudging toward a rickety rocking chair. Her snowwhite hair, fluffy and fine as feathers, stands out as if she has been shocked (it has clearly not been styled in a long time), and her black eyes pinch in concentration as she painstakingly reaches for the rocker and grasps it with gnarled hands. Slowly, she turns, shifts her weight, and lowers herself into the chair. She settles back, mopping her brow in relief.

Lynn Jennings '65 steps back and stands up straight. "Great!" she says, clapping her hands as five adult student puppeteers release the handles of Jennings's elderly tabletop puppet and mop their own brows. "How was that?" she asks.

The students chime in—"Hard!" "Slow!" "Painstaking." They have each been responsible for moving a separate body part of the 10-inch-tall puppet—an arm, a leg, the head—working in harmony while Jennings guided their movements. It is cooperation of the most intimate sort, five people hovering in Twister-like poses over the puppet, while moving in microscopic increments as one.

Jennings knows the drill well. A professional puppeteer for more than 35 years, she has worked with every type of puppet imaginable. And as board president and executive director of the San Diego Guild of Puppetry/Puppetry Center of San Diego, she has not only brought puppets to life herself, she has spread the seeds of puppetry into arts and education communities around the world. But to see Jennings in action, it is evident where the greatest benefit has fallen: Jennings is as alive as her puppets—and that is a compliment. She is as alert, open, and curious as a child.

■

Jennings began her puppetry career—or "addiction," as she calls it—when she was little more than a kindergartner. She had not seen many puppet shows—only *Kukla, Fran, and Ollie* on television—when her fourth-grade Girl Scout troop decided to put on a puppet show about great American heroes. Jennings chose Huckleberry Finn and created his puppet head of papiermâché pasted over a light bulb. Huck was a hit. The show was a hit. Jennings was hooked.

At Middlebury, she became part of a band of itinerant puppeteers, Sigma Kappa sorority sisters who roamed the countryside, performing

ALTER EGOS
Without their puppeteer, Jennings's puppets would be lifeless objects. Yet without them, Jennings insists, she would be just as lifeless.

Photograph by Max S. Gerber

first at a local nursing home, and later for special events.

Over the years, Jennings honed her puppetry skills. She learned to build puppets from master craftsmen, studied the art of storytelling, developed scripts, and traveled frequently to attend festivals and workshops—all in the pursuit of an esoteric art form that entails breathing life into inanimate objects.

Of course, giving inanimate objects the breath of life is the name of the game for puppeteers, Jennings recently told a group of students at the University of California, San Diego, where she teaches occasional workshops.

"Puppetry is about convincing an audience that a man-made object is alive," Jennings says. "A puppet can be a spoon, a vacuum cleaner—anything. If a puppet is alive to its puppeteer, it will come to life for the audience."

This transformation lies at the heart of Jennings's art, and she is helping train a new generation of puppeteers to appreciate and enact their own transformations.

"Can you look at your watch?" The blue head peers down at his wrists—both bear watches.

At Jennings's home studio, four puppeteers preparing for a workshop practice transforming such mundane objects as bleach bottles and knotted scarves into whimsical, living characters.

A blue, bespectacled, bleach-bottle man, brow shrouded in a brown wig, comes to life with the help of three puppeteers—one holding the head and neck by the bleach-bottle handle, and one on each hand, with an arm draped through the sleeve of a shirt attached to the bottle. Jennings acts as director, encouraging the puppeteers to explore their medium.

"Can you put your hands in the air?" she asks. The three-man puppet complies, waving his hands in the air and shaking his head.

"Can you look at your watch?" The blue head peers down at his wrists—both bear watches.

"Can you think?" The hands scratch the wigged head and curl under the blue chin.

The transformation is far from complete, but the bluebottle man has taken on a life that will become richer with practice.

Transforming lives through enrichment is one of Jennings's unspoken themes—and the lives she transforms can include those of puppeteers, audiences, and even communities.

Witness her work at Freese Elementary Arts Magnet School in Southeast San Diego. Freese is an underperforming school in a multiracial, low-income neighborhood not far from the Mexican border. Jennings and the Guild of Puppetry have collaborated with teachers at Freese to introduce puppetry into the classroom in a way that incorporates the standard curriculum (such as writing and social studies) and gives even non-English speakers a way to connect the arts with their own experience.

"Kids who won't participate in any other thing *will* participate in puppetry," Jennings says. "When I first started going to Freese, I was a little intimidated by some of the kids. There were some really big sixth graders," says Jennings, who stands nearly six feet tall herself. "But every one of those big, tough kids would do the tenderest things with the puppets. It's magical."

Mary Pat Hutt, the arts magnet resource director at Freese, has watched Jennings work for the last 15 years.

"No matter what we propose," Hutt says, "Lynn always says, 'We'll make it work.'" And Jennings's projects at Freese have worked magic on a grand scale.

In a temporary bungalow dedicated to puppetry, the students have created puppets of titanic proportions. Life-sized lions made out of refrigerator boxes lounge against a wall next to six-foot African masks made of plastic plumbing pipes, metal, and cloth. Maribou-plumed ostriches the size of Big Bird, with high-stepping legs of corrugated tubing, rest their beaks near pictures of boys "wearing" the puppets, guiding their undulating necks. Photos of Jennings's most comprehensive project at Freese, a giant puppet parade and festival cover black display boards. The dull brown bungalow has been transformed, like the children and the community itself, through the creative energy of Jennings's work.

Jennings recently received a grant from the prestigious Henson Foundation and is developing a puppet show for adults titled "Goldilocks, the Nursing Home Version." For more information, visit www.sandiegoguildofpuppetry.org.

Cynthia Jenson-Elliott is a freelance writer based in San Diego.

Second Acts

Nearly 20 years after making his debut in *The Player*, Griffin Mill has returned.

By Elisabeth Crean

Hollywood loves a sequel. Studios eagerly greenlight new movies featuring the same old comic book heroes, intergalactic warriors, and sexy superspies. Even boxer Rocky Balboa put on his trunks for a sixth round at the cineplex, notwithstanding his eligibility for AARP membership. So it is entirely fitting that author Michael Tolkin '74 has brought back a delightfully debauched Hollywood executive in his sequel novel, *The Return of the Player* (New York: Grove Press, 2006).

The fictional studio shark, Griffin Mill, first surfaced in the pages of Tolkin's savage satire, *The Player* (1988). Tolkin also penned the Academy Award-nominated screenplay of the story for the late director Robert Altman's 1992 film. The delicious send-up of the unscrupulous studio system—which the famously iconoclastic Altman scrupulously avoided throughout his career—became one of the director's most popular and successful films.

On-screen, Tim Robbins portrayed Griffin Mill unforgettably: slick, seductive, and sinister. On the page, Tolkin's character is even richer: an endearing sociopath who constantly tinkers with the basic laws of physics governing his moral universe. For Griffin, getting away with murder isn't a metaphor. It's a slightly unusual day at the office.

When *The Return of the Player* opens, 15 years have elapsed in the life of Griffin Mill. The thirtysomething rising star is now 52 and frustrated, with one ex-wife, a second marriage on the rocks, and a vexing allergy to Viagra. The Player's neuroses have multiplied since his career stalled a few steps short of the pinnacle of Hollywood power. His failure to become a studio boss signifies more than loss of influence or status: it means he hasn't attained financial security.

Down to his last six million dollars, Griffin can barely support his current obligations. And he sees a dying planet all around him. To survive, and protect his family, he needs to own a small South Pacific island—with sufficient elevation to accommodate rising sea levels caused by melting polar icecaps. To earn an island-buying income, he casts his net beyond the movie-making world. He targets a business alliance with Philip Ginsberg, a wealthy fellow parent at his children's private school. Griffin knows an ostentatiously large donation will catch the almost-billionaire's eye.

Plenty of outlandish scheming takes place along the way. Griffin's gambits lead to a job with Ginsberg, who commissions the ex-movie man to come up with the Next Big Idea to make megamoney. But Griffin soon comes to wonder if he has made a megamistake. Griffin is capable of ruthlessness and rationalizing that would make Machiavelli blush. In Ginsberg, however, Griffin is consorting with—and trying to please—a mercurial and morally-bankrupt monster of mythic proportions.

Tolkin's acid pen cuts deep as he parodies a parade of modern excesses, extremes, and obsessions. Among his targets: plastic surgery junkies, dangerous Internet liaisons, lavish bar mitzvahs and rampaging materialism. The author's eye is unsparing; his language, vivid and blunt. For example, Ginsberg "was mean and worked alone like a troll under a bridge, demanding a tax of everyone who passed: money, gold, cattle, a first-born child."

Against this background of cultural decay, the remarkable twist is that Griffin turns out to have a bit of a soul after all. His years spent developing screenplays have conditioned him to analyze his own life like a script: seeing crises, failings, and needs as a series of plot points. But he is determined to be the hero of his own journey, to resolve everything by the decisive third act. No Hollywood executive would buy the breathtakingly improbable humdinger of an ending that Tolkin has scripted to Griffin's story. And yet somehow it works, maybe because we find ourselves so utterly charmed by this very bad boy, turned just a tiny bit good.

■

Medical education is so rigorous that doctors learn procedures they will never perform and memorize conditions they will never encounter. Even budding psychiatrists and dermatologists take 300 hours of obstetrics training and study infectious diseases that do not occur in North America.

Yet during years of med school, internship, and residency, physicians receive virtually no preparation for the one

thing that 100 percent of their patients will eventually face: death. In *Last Rights: Rescuing the End of Life from the Medical System* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2006), journalist Stephen P. Kiernan '82 demonstrates that medical advances have made dying in America more painful, not less, in part because doctors are woefully trained in end-of-life care. A startling disconnect has arisen between the peaceful passage Americans say they want and the tumultuous final days many endure.

The book opens with a chilling account of a doctor hastening his patient's demise. An elderly woman with severe lung disease is on a ventilator against her express, written orders. The extra drug that her longtime physician slips into the final injection—is it mercy, or manslaughter?

Ultimately, the doctor receives a modest slap on the wrist and major community support. And while the hot-button topics of physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia remain outside his book's main scope, Kiernan argues that the very existence of these issues on our cultural radar screen represents an indictment of the current system. Neither would be necessary if dying were handled compassionately in America today.

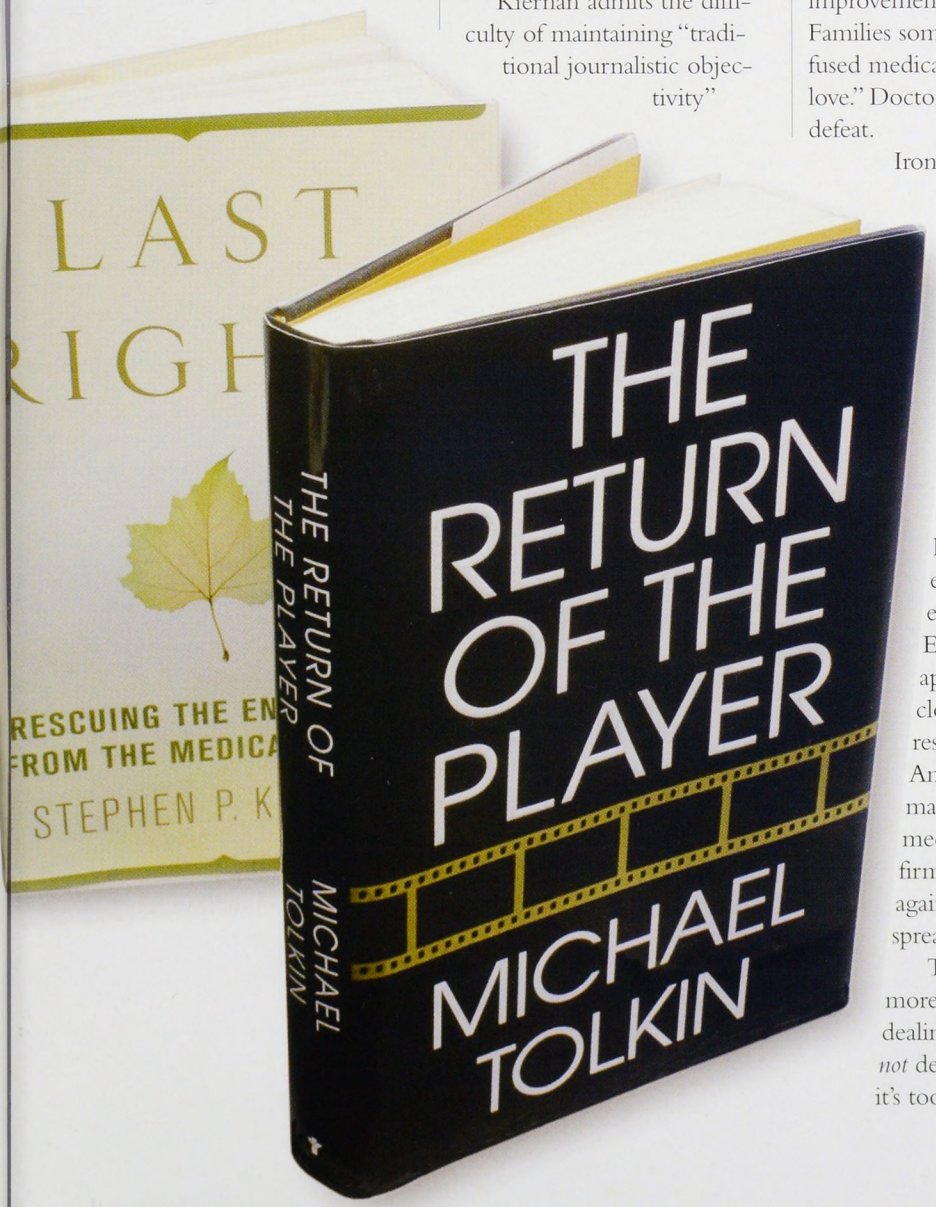
Kiernan admits the difficulty of maintaining "traditional journalistic objectivity" while reporting on such an emotionally freighted subject. He spent time with dying patients and their families, whose stories illuminate the issues more powerfully than the alarming statistics the author has also amassed.

A key numerical shift—in the 1920s, 75 percent of Americans passed away at home; by the 1990s, 75 percent died in a hospital. The comfort of one's own bed gave way to beeping machines and invasive tubes. Kiernan elucidates the complex systemic and psychological reasons for resorting to "heroic measures" far past the point where any meaningful improvement is possible. Families sometimes "have confused medical persistence with love." Doctors view death as defeat.

Ironically, better treatment is simpler and less expensive. Palliative care focuses on effective pain and symptom management. Hospice treats the needs of the patient and family together—from helping run errands to healing emotional wounds. Even though these approaches align closely with what research shows Americans want, many elements of the medical system stand firmly entrenched against their widespread use.

The only thing more difficult than dealing with death is *not* dealing with it until it's too late, argues Kiernan. The failure to prepare—to make decisions and communicate wishes in advance—vastly increases the potential for emotional distress, physical pain, and financial devastation. It's impossible to read *Last Rights* without reflecting on personal experiences, and Kiernan shares his own. His father died in a prolonged and pointless ICU ordeal. "We were textbook cases of the American approach to death. We were completely unprepared, unschooled, and unassisted." Four years later, his mother died peacefully at home, with "nothing left undone" and "her bright character... undimmed."

Kiernan's message is clear. "Death is something we can indeed bear to face, and should face—because if we do, we can shape its meaning and effect." He wants families to talk: communicate final needs and wishes well ahead of time, and prepare advance directives. And he also urges Americans to rally as "noisy consumers" to force public policy changes—from medical training to Medicare rules—that support dying well.



Recently Published

- *Spirit of the Village: A Maui Memoir* (Write On Maui Publishers, 2006) by Jackie Pais Carlin, M.A. English '04

- *The Book of Emma* (Insomniac Press, 2006) by Marie-Célie Agnant, translated by Zilpha Bentley Ellis, M.A. French '61

- *Marine Metapopulations* (Academic Press, 2006) coedited by Peter Sale and Jacob Kritzer '95

class

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28

Good wishes to all from the five members of the class of 1928. **Helen M. Bailey** and **Elizabeth Hayes Balch** celebrated their 99th birthdays with family and friends. (I join them in January 2007). ✷ **Helen Revere Hatch** celebrated her 100th birthday in stride as she attended a series of events honoring her. A wonderful picture of her in the newspaper had this caption: "The Venice Nokomis Woman's Club held a 100th birthday party for longtime member, Helen Hatch. The former French teacher was surprised with a visit from the mayor and two of her former students who recalled some of their memories of her teaching days." Best heartfelt wishes were sent to Helen from the Class of 1944 at Mamaroneck High School who described her as "their beloved French language teacher." ✷ **Louise Thompson** looks forward to 102 in April 2007. It was the sound of their voices as I called each class member that convinced me to put down my class notes pen with this column and share our "length of days" experiences among ourselves. ✷ The 1928 class notes column began in the fall of 1928 with our first secretary, **Edna Allyn White**, Prof. Raymond (Pa) White's wife, writing from campus for a tiny alumni magazine. Secretaries began to work in pairs to contact both men and women and were elected at each reunion. The only time we responded as a class was for our 50th reunion. **John Walker** and **Adelma Hadley Lardner** published our responses in a reunion yearbook. ✷ Fast forward to our 70th reunion when I visited the 1928 Paul Dwight Moody Area in Kirk Alumni Center. **William** (Bill) **Donald** made a donation to establish this room in memory of his co-secretary, **Jane Carrick Oviatt**. ✷ My longtime partner, **Napoleon** (Nap) **Blanchette** and I were elected for many terms as class secretaries, and in these later years I have been working "without portfolio." I am very proud of my classmates. I have been delighted to report of their accomplishments and services in their corners of the world. Perhaps the highest honor was the conferring of Middlebury's Doctor of Letters degree upon **William Storrs Lee**, by former President John M. McCardell Jr. Storrs wrote the twice-published definitive account of Gamaliel Painter, Middlebury's founder. ✷ To all who have responded and to everyone who has helped me, especially the editors of our now huge magazine, Dotty McCarty, our former class notes editor, and present class notes editor, Sara Marshall, MY THANKS. It has been a privilege. Everyone thanks our e-mailer and typist, Edna Wagner. With much appreciation, Mimi.

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. J. D. Coombs (Miriam Sweet), (978-369-5595), 13 Highland St., Concord, MA 01742.*

[*Ed. note: We would like to thank Mimi for her many years of dedicated service as class secretary for the Class of 1928. Her columns were always beautifully written and informative!*]

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Our classmate, **Ruth Atwood Muller**, passed away October 31. Ruth was a member of the Tri Delt sorority, a field hockey player, and a member of the Drama Club. Her classmates often chided her about her boyfriend and their constant correspondence; we thought the paper industry would be devastated if they broke up! Ruth and I had a mutual acquaintance in our retirement years and we reconnected through them. She and her husband lived in Harvard, Mass. The class sends its sympathy to family and friends.

—Class Secretary: *Mr. E. Parker Calvert (calverte@aol.com), 6251 Old Dominion Dr., #225, McLean, VA 22101.*

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Please send me your news so we can all keep up on each other's activities! I'd love to hear from you.

—Class Secretary: *Alma Davis Struble (Mrs. Robert), 1977 Marlboro Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348.*

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Two classmates have left us. **Anna Mayo** passed away on August 28. Anna graduated from Middlebury with a degree in sociology and an interest in social work (thanks to Pappy Sholes), a career path she followed all her life. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends. ✷ **Roxana Lewis Blackmore** passed away on September 20. While at Middlebury, Roxana lived for three years in the Château and recently shared this memory: "We had to dress for dinner twice a week and Dr. Freeman had to listen to us play the grand piano!" We send our condolences to her children, John and Betsy.

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. Louise Hubbard McCoy, 865 Central Ave., #L403, Needham, MA 02492.*

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REUNION CLASS

Put this important date on your calendar: June 1–3, 2007. It's our 70th reunion on the Midd campus. We hope you'll be able to make it and look forward to seeing you there. ✷ **Mary Lance Osborn** is living in a retirement center in Marion, Ill. Her two sons live nearby and visit regularly. She has three grandsons and two great-grandsons. ✷ We regret to report the passing of a good friend and classmate, **Robert W. Robinson**, in Largo, Fla., on August 13. Robbie, as he was known to most of us, was our class agent for many years. He spent a lifetime career in education as a teacher and coach, serving 33 years at the Roeliff Jansen School in Hillsdale, N.Y., where he taught math, science, and phys. ed. and coached teams in basketball, baseball, and track. At Midd he was assistant manager of the varsity football team, played hockey for three years, was a member of Blue Key, and was active in the Mountain Club for four years. He was predeceased by first wife Sarah O'Hara Robinson, and in 1994 he married a longtime friend from his Middlebury days, our classmate, **Ruth Van Sickle Dyer**. Together they attended our 60th and 65th reunions and were regular participants in the Alumni Leadership Conferences at Bread Loaf. For several years they divided their time between St. Petersburg, Fla., and Chittenango, N.Y. Ruth is now living in New Jersey. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her and to all the Robinson family and their circle of friends.

—Class Secretary: *Marshall Sewell (marshland7@verizon.net), 20 Morning Glory Ln., Whiting, NJ 08759.*

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When you read this column, it will be a little over a year before our 70th reunion. Hard to believe, isn't it? It was **Betty Osborne Peelor** who told me she was planning to go to our reunion in 2008. Betty, daughter Linda, and I had Sunday brunch together at the Middlebury Inn the last weekend in July. Can't you imagine all the talking we did? Memories of college days and talk of families, which included children and grandchildren, of course! Before we parted, Linda said that she would be more than happy to bring Betty to reunion. So, classmates, start thinking ahead and plan to be with us. ✷ Through networking, I finally located **Jennie-Belle Perry Barr**. Her niece, Nancy Malcolm, lives in Middlebury and Nancy's in-laws live here at Wake Robin. After speaking with them, I called Nancy and got Jennie-Belle's phone number. In March 2006, Jennie-Belle moved from Florida to Hull, Mass. She is delighted to be back in New England and to live in the same town as son Scott. Her condo is next to a beach and looks out over the Atlantic Ocean. We hope Scott will bring you to reunion, Jennie-Belle! ✷ I talk several times a year with **Polly Overton Camp**. When I spoke with her last August, she was looking forward to their annual family gathering and a feast of lobster at their cottage in Old Lyme, Conn. A lobster fest is one of the special annual occasions we have here at Wake Robin as well. ✷ Since my last column, I have learned that **Al Pritchard** died on May 22. A memorial appeared in the fall issue. Belatedly, our class sends condolences to Al's family. ✷ I hope some of you remember a Saturday those many years ago when Prexy Moody walked across the football field with Sir Wilfred Grenfell. Do you recall at that time the Dog Team was a tearoom and that Sir Wilfred had a mission in Labrador? The Dog Team was where the hooked rugs that were handcrafted at the mission were sold. For the past 60 years, we have known it as the Dog Team Tavern. Many of us enjoyed dining there when we were in the area—and oh those famous sticky buns! Much to our sorrow, the Dog Team burned to the ground Labor Day weekend, and with it went a lot of memorabilia. ✷ If memories of years past inspire you to send news to the College or to me, please do so. I close to say that I am here visiting **Janet Randall Morgan** in Quonochontaug, R.I. What a great time we are having.

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. Charles M. Hall (Margaret Leslie), 510 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

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Frances Barrett Johnson has a full house with daughter Signe, her grandson, a dog, and two cats. Signe is looking for a house and hopes to find one soon. Frances has given up the thought of moving west to be near her son. ✷ **Beverly Browning Gilbert** enjoys all the things there are to do at Wake Robin. She no longer moves across Lake Champlain to the New York side for the summer, but she does take day trips there on the ferry to visit her family and friends. ✷ We are sorry to report the deaths of **Harriett Barnes Ball** and **Francis Parker**. The sympathy of the class is extended to their families and friends. ✷ On Labor Day **Ruth Coleman Skinner** enjoyed a picnic with 38 of her family in attendance. The news about them all could fill a book. Granddaughter Alexandra teaches English in Berlin, Germany, where she finds the people very friendly and hospitable. For more, get in touch with Ruth. You'll be fascinated to hear what **Ray** and Ruth's progeny are doing. ✷ **Loring Lane** has two bad knees so he walks with a cane and gets along just fine. His daughter in Maryland wants him and his wife to visit so they can all celebrate his 90th birthday. Happy birthday, Loring! ✷ Happy 90th birthday to **Boyd Carr** and **Tom Murray** also. Quite a few of us are reaching that decade that brings us to 100. ✷ **Madaline Uhl Prior** was delighted to welcome her first great-granddaughter recently born in Austin, Texas. Her son, who lives in Hawaii, visited her in October. She was planning to take the train to Reno to visit her daughter and looked forward to seeing the aspens in full fall color. ✷ **Joyce Mackenzie Cropsey** will attend her next DAR meeting in costume. In the meantime she is making a tiny pocketbook for her keys and charge card and is trying to figure out a way to conceal it on her person. Joyce has a granddaughter in the ROTC at Norwich Univ. in Vermont. That would certainly shock an original Revolutionary lady! Joyce still drives—in fact she makes a five-hour drive to visit her son in upper New England. ✷ **Bert MacFadden** is still a practicing pediatrician. He says he can't stop because that's what he does with his time. Lucky kids to have a doctor with Bert's many years of experience. ✷ **Evelyn Wheeler Stagg** spends most of her time in Florida these days. She celebrated her birthday on September 30 with a visit from her daughter. ✷ **Olive Holbrook Nagle** is enjoying life in her assisted living abode. **Jeanette Olson Gould** had fun reminiscing with her about some of their many trips abroad together. Once on a visit to Moscow, they decided to go out for a walk in the evening and got hopelessly lost. They asked one of the soldiers, found on duty at every cross street, the way to their Intourist Hotel. He obliged. They must have looked pretty harmless.

—Class Secretaries: *Ms. Jeanette Olson Gould (jogvt@aol.com) (978-263-8151), 1055 Depot Rd., Boxboro, MA 01719; and Mrs. Raymond J. Skinner (Ruth Coleman) (rskinner@kingcon.com), Brainerd St., P.O. Box 52, Danville, VT 05828.*

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Since no news has arrived from any classmates, I'm going to suggest an activity that will prove to be interesting for you as well as your children and other relatives. And it may provide us with some class notes! I have found genealogy to be a worthwhile investment of time. You not only learn a lot about your family, but you can preserve that information for future generations. Many computer programs, such as Family Tree Maker and the Mormon Church genealogy program, make the work much easier because they can arrange the data you have gathered in various kinds of charts (by pedigree, descendant, ancestor, etc). Methods for finding information include searching the birth and death records of the towns in which ancestors lived, consulting the U.S. census reports, using the local historical societies, searching the registry of deeds of an area, looking up wills or town tax records, researching obituaries in newspapers, and searching the cemeteries. In many areas a listing of those buried in the cemeteries can keep your research to an armchair distance, using local libraries or the computer. Once the skeleton of the family tree has been worked out (often it is possible to follow a family tree back into the 1400s or 1500s), there comes an opportunity to research the most interesting part—the lives of the people. Your knowledge of your grandparents and parents, as well as uncles, aunts, and other family members gives you the opportunity to write a biographical sketch of each of these individuals telling what they were like, how they earned their living, and what sort of problems they encountered and surmounted in their lifetimes. Don't omit the opportunity to make an autobiographical sketch of your own life and times (maybe including a brief medical history, particularly dealing with inheritable diseases). In short, delving into the genealogy of your family can provide many hours of interesting work for you and will leave behind a fascinating trail of information for your progeny to study. And if you happen to come across a story you would like to share with the class, I'd love to receive it. I am desirous of providing as much interesting information as possible for the Class of '40. If you don't want to send in a family story, please send in information, ideas, anecdotes, or memories.

—Class Secretary: *Dr. Loring W. Pratt (roachpond@aol.com), 37 Lawrence Ave., Fairfield, ME 04937.*

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Howard Hasbrouck wrote in May, "We had our annual family reunion again in March at Hilton Head Island, S.C. Our family came down from Michigan to spend a week with us. The great-granddaughter loves the beach! We still enjoy playing golf and bridge, although lately it seems we play a lot more bridge than golf! Must be the years catching up to us." ✷ At reunion time, **Connie Girard Brown** sent a long letter and lovely picture of her entire family. Her granddaughter is in the Navy medical program and will graduate next year, after 11 months in a pediatric program in San Diego. One grandson and his girlfriend from Costa Rica are taking courses at Purdue. ✷ **Carol Hubbard Newcomb** did not wish to attend reunion, but continues to enjoy her New Hampshire home and particularly enjoyed the beautiful fall foliage. ✷ In a call to Grimmy (**Edith Grimm Miller**), she sounded great—ready "to get out the shin guards and hockey stick for one of those alumni games" to which she receives annual invitations. Preferring to remember the College and her classmates as they were 65 years ago, she didn't mind missing reunion. In family news, her elder son is at the Library of Congress where he specializes in the study of the Ural Mountains. He and **Harriet Hull Boland**'s son were at Middlebury at the same time. ✷ Grimmy had a great visit with Jamen (**Frances-Jane Hayden Trask**) last summer in New Hampshire. They talked about taking a European riverboat trip. Jamen enjoyed the New Hampshire visit, especially the real old-fashioned 4th of July parade. Back home in Prescott, Ariz., she was anticipating the 30th anniversary celebration at La Fuentes, the community where she lives. ✷ **Peg Williams Rhodes** enjoys the three attendants who provide her round-the-clock care. Her sons live nearby and are very good to her. One handles her finances, one her medications, and the third is her errand boy. Daughter Elizabeth lives in Michigan and was planning to come at Christmas with her three children. Peg recalls freshman year when she lived downtown and found it difficult to get acquainted and feel a part of the class. ✷ **Charlotte Gilbert Lightfoot** enjoyed good results from recent cataract surgery. She has hearing aids, but has found lately she does as well without them! How great it would be if some of the rest of us had the same experience! She had knee surgery in early summer then spent six weeks at their place in Dorset, Vt. Most of her family is nearby her in the Northwest. She and **Mary Kiely White** exchange letters at holiday time. ✷ **Debbie Mayo Beattie** is now at the nursing home next door to the Mayo Retirement Community where she had been living. Her new address is 71 Richardson St., Northfield, VT 05663. She seems to be pleasantly situated. We send our sympathy on the death of sister Anna '36. ✷ Regrettably, we missed the obituary for **Jack Beckwith** in the spring issue. Our deepest sympathy goes to wife Edith '44 and to their family. ✷ We were also sorry to learn of the death of David Goodell '40, husband of Polly (**Mary Ruby Goodell**). He was well known to most of our class and he and Polly were at most of our reunions. We missed them in June. Our warmest thoughts and prayers are with you, Polly, and all your family. ✷ From our own class, we were sorry to learn of the death of **Sid Thomas** on June 28 and we send condolences to his family. ✷ This past July, **Ruth Hardy Scheidecker** enjoyed the lovely wedding in Ludlow, Vt., of her granddaughter. ✷ **Jean Connor** really "keeps on the go!" Last spring, she combined a reunion of poetry friends in Wisconsin with a visit to her nephew and family in Minneapolis. On a June weekend trip to Cape Cod, she met poet laureate Ted Kooser and heard him give a reading. Late in August she vacationed with a friend and visited three museums in the Williamstown, Mass., area. ✷ Westie (**Helen West Burbank**) and **Packy** represented our class at the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf. Westie received recognition for having attended all 30 of the annual conferences. ✷ **Roger Griffith** writes, "My best year at the College was the last one. The summer before I was a reporter at the *Rutland Herald*, a job I loved. I told the editor I'd decided not to go back to college. He said quickly, 'You're fired.' Then he added, 'Come back after you graduate and get your job.' Back to college I went and found a letter from the Army saying I was being drafted into a job that paid $21 a month. Soon after college, I was at Fort Devens, then was shipped to D.C. for classes, then headed on a boat trip to Africa. Hundreds of us getting off the ship heard one fellow say, 'This war doesn't seem so bad.' Then German planes flew over, firing at us. I led my intelligence team to Italy where we became part of the British Eighth Army for the rest of the year. Then back home where I joined the Vermont National Guard. My years in the Army ended on July 10, 1972, with me leaving as a lieutenant colonel, Signal Corps. I still miss it in many ways."

—Class Secretary: *Roger Griffith (rmg19@adelphia.net), 35 Skyline Dr., Essex Junction, VT 05452; and Ruth Packard Jones (Mrs. Charles), 4106 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

42 REUNION CLASS

We note with sorrow the death on October 10 of classmate **Jim Ferren**. We hadn't heard from Jim in a long time, but were sorry to hear of the loss of another classmate. In college, Jim was a member of Chi Psi and participated in track, football, dramatics, and the literary club. At the time of our 50th reunion, he and second wife June had just moved from California to Bouse, Ariz., and were enjoying two sets of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. ✷ Our 65th reunion (June 1–3, 2007) is fast approaching, and we'd like to make it memorable. Please contact us if you would like to help. We will be looking for volunteers to, among other things, act as greeters at registration, organize a memorabilia display, and give suggestions in general. So get in touch with us by telephone, e-mail, or snail mail. Contact your friends and plan to be at reunion in June! ✷ A note from **Joan Calley Cooper** in San Francisco let us know that she spent her usual summer in New Hampshire where she had a chance to meet with **Sue Hulings Ottinger** and **Peggy Woods Eriksson**. She reports that they all expect to be at reunion in June. Joan has agreed to coordinate ideas for class activities, so if you have any suggestions or would like to give her a hand, she would welcome your input. ✷ **Chuck Beach**, who is heading up the Class Gifts Committee, represented us at the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in September, getting a start on reunion and class gift planning. As class secretaries, we had planned to be at the conference, but for health reasons had to cancel out at the last minute. We are looking forward to a great time in June and will be looking forward to seeing you all there.
—Class Secretaries: *Phil and Betty Blanchard Robinson (sec42midd@aol.com), 410 Buffington Rd., Syracuse, NY 13224.*

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Secretary Doe reports: **Margaret Bullock Marti** and husband Don recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary and live happily in the same house they have occupied for the last 55 years. Peg was thrilled to welcome their first great-grandchild on February 12: "He's an adorable (of course) red-haired boy named Ty David." Good news, indeed! ✷ **Marty Newton Van Gaasbeck** is looking forward to a move into a retirement facility soon and promises to let us know her new address and phone number. Notice of any change is much appreciated! ✷ **Pat Rogers Prukop** is scheduled for knee surgery soon. We hope all goes well. ✷ My recent phone calls to several people had no response or received a disconnect message. Does anyone have information about changes for these classmates—**Elizabeth Hanzsche Schuyler** and **Elva Tarbell Procopio**? ✷ Secretary Gale reports: I had a long talk with **Jim Brown**, whom you remember did not return to Middlebury after freshman year; he took a job in advertising for the summer and liked it so well he kept at it rather than returning. In December 1941, he enlisted in the Marine Corps soon after Pearl Harbor, was assigned to the First Marine Division, and was a radioman in Guadalcanal, Cape Gloucester on New Britain Island, and Palau. After the war, he graduated from Yale where he worked in the news bureau, worked then for various newspapers in the East, and was on the editorial board of the *New York Times*. Having always loved the sea, he retired to Camden, Maine, where he wrote for *Down East* magazine. Seven years ago he and Trudi bought a condo in Middleton, R.I., near one son in Fall River, Mass., where they can enjoy seeing the grandchildren grow up. Jim is well except for arthritis, which necessitates the use of a cane. Says he has fonder memories of Middlebury than of Yale. ✷ **Ralph Barclay** reports from Maryland that his son has recently bought the house next door to his and expects to move there soon, which is welcome news for Ralph. ✷ When I reached **Eb Baines** in Vero Beach, Fla., in September, he had just returned from a weekend conference of the Family Research Council in Washington, D.C. He remains active, despite leg problems that necessitate using a walker or power chair. He and Janet were looking forward to a cruise in December. ✷ **Steve Wilson** of Portland, Ore., reports he's occasionally been in touch with **Lew Haines** up in Anchorage, Alaska. Steve enjoys having their son nearby and says one grandson is graduating this year from air traffic controller school. Steve uses a walker and no longer drives due to continuing balance problems. Wife Libby, a Wellesley grad, came on the phone to comment that she reads both the Wellesley and Middlebury alumni magazines and finds Middlebury's much more interesting. ✷ **Paul Liehr** sounded upbeat on the phone, in spite of limitations on his ambulation, which necessitate either a walker (a common theme for '43ers now) or a cane, and which restrict his travel. He said he feels very fortunate to be in generally good health otherwise. He has no problem reading as long as he uses his glasses. He says he lives about 10 miles from **Ted Peach**. ✷ **Stu Walker** reported: "This was a good year for sailing—and my club, the Severn Sailing Association in Annapolis, held the Soling World Championships in October with about 50 boats from all over the world. It was an opportunity for me (as Regatta Chairman) to repay all the hospitality I have received for the past 40 odd years!" ✷ This past summer, the Craftsbury (Vt.) Historical Society presented "Remembering Friends: **Roger Easton**, Our White House Laureate." In January, President George W. Bush honored Roger by awarding him a White House Laureate in Technology. At the historical society event, Roger planned to recall his early years in Craftsbury, highlight his long career as a space scientist with the Navy department and NASA, and show a video of the White House award ceremony. ✷ After this column, **Lois Doe** will be stepping down as class secretary and **Ann Cole Byington** will take over. Many thanks to Lois for her years as class secretary and for the wonderful class notes she has written!
—Class Secretaries: *Mrs. Lois Groben Doe (loisumbie@aol.com), 4 Simon Atherton Row, Harvard, MA 01451; and Dr. John S. Gale (jsgale22@adelphia.net), 24 Beach Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930.*

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Betty Mercer McChrystal and husband Bill have a new home in La Costa Glen Carlsbad. Their address is 7835 Rush Rose, Apt. 230, Carlsbad, CA 92009. ✷ We are sorry to report the deaths of **Muriel Roome Wakeman** on November 22 and **Bill Stevenson** on November 23. Both of them were loyal alums and were familiar faces at most of our reunions. We send the condolences of the class to their families. ✷ **Hugh Taft** writes that he and his wife made a short trip along the Maine coast in September, including a visit with Dick '43 and Lee Van Leuven '45 Morehouse on Vinalhaven Island via ferry from Rockland. Their longtime summer home there, a former tavern that they have restored magically into a warm and welcoming place, includes Dick's stone garden carved out of the underbrush along their piece of rugged coastline. While they were in Rockland, Hugh and Barb visited the Jamien Morehouse Wing of the Farnsworth Art Museum honoring Dick and Lee's daughter, Jamien '73, a mother, artist, teacher, entrepreneur, and community enthusiast who died tragically at age 48. Leaving Rockland, they drove north to Bar Harbor and did a little exploring of Acadia Park and Mt. Desert Island where Hugh's business partner, now deceased, was born and raised. "We relived his colorful stories of life among the former rich and famous summer residents, all of whom were 'from away' as Maine folk say. Now most of their mansions are gone, destroyed in the forest fire of 1947." Hugh says it's still a great area to visit, especially if you enjoy lobster! ✷ As for **Neil** and **Marylu Graham Atkins**, we spent last March in Sarasota, Fla., with our daughter and her recently retired husband and welcomed our two little great-grandchildren (ages 4 and 2) and their parents from Minneapolis in July. Since then we have wondered why we don't hear more from you for this column!
—Class Secretaries: *Dr. and Mrs. Neil Atkins (Marylu Graham) (nmatkins@prodigy.net), 70 Hilltop Pl., New London, NH 03256.*

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Secretary Walker reports: In the July Gamaliel Painter's Cane Society letter from Hugh Marlow '57, there's a photo of Dr. **John McGarry** as he speaks with Dr. Charles Johnson, husband of the late Leigh Updike Johnson '56, and Dan Breen after the Cane Society luncheon where Dr. Johnson spoke. ✷ Mew (**Mary Elizabeth Wisotzkey McClellan**) writes that she has recently enjoyed reading Bill McKibben's *Wandering Home* for his account of the students getting the organic farming started at the College. Mew and Bruce celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June by taking the whole family (10 members) to Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, N.Y., for several days. "Music week there included big bands, jazz, and classical, and we enjoyed the new spa features such as pool, massage, and hot tub, especially as it rained every day. We also returned to Lawrenceville School for the first Faculty Brats reunion. Over 100 men and women who had grown up on the campus as faculty children came. It was good to reconnect with 'the kids' and get glimpses of how school life is now, 20 years later. We are thrilled that our two granddaughters are entering Lawrenceville's class of 2010 this year. Hervie and **Pat DeLearie Haufler** came to dinner here at RiverMead in August and we had a good time comparing CCRCs. They enjoy Wake Robin in Shelburne, Vt., and we continue to be comfortable and happy here at RiverMead." Mew and Bruce were planning to visit **Dottie Laux O'Brien** in September on their way home from a mini Williams College reunion. Dottie wrote Mew that Birch (**Bette Bertschinger Saul**) and husband Ralph are moving to a retirement community soon. Dottie writes to Mew regularly and keeps her well stocked with butterflies and pansy motifs as well as Middlebury news from her Vermont newspapers and columns. ✷ I received news from another happy resident of a CCRC and, more importantly, a lovely photo of a pretty lady dressed in her Hawaiian skirt, straw hat, and colorful blouse at an activity called Island Day. **Barbara Drury Sand** looked happy and attractive, but you'll have to take my word for it as no photos accompany these notes. Home is East Greenwich Bay Manor where her older sister also resides, and movies, concerts, and daily exercise are provided. ✷ I called **Ruth Collins Shikes** who had fallen in her apartment and fractured her pelvic bone. Ruth said that

after a week in the hospital, she was moved to a rehab center where she remained for a month and a half and, surprisingly, replaced her regular reading of the *New York Times* and other periodicals with reminiscing, especially about Middlebury days. I think we all would approve of that. Finally she was discharged from rehab to her home with a parade of helpers. Now she has only one more week of her physical therapy and with that prospect and the happy activities she is already enjoying, we can feel sure that she is almost as good as new. ✷ Fall here at Medford Leas was busy with an annual flower show, opening up the Haddon Greenhouse, and my senior citizen's advisory board commitment.
—Class Secretaries: *Ann Robinson Walker (urwalker @medleas.com), 181 Medford Leas, Medford, NJ 08055; and Alan Wolfley (aw451bg@aol.com), 22 Canaan Close, New Canaan, CT 06840.*

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Kathy Rowley Tuttle reports with great happiness that son Charles has returned safely from Iraq where he was a chaplain for the armed forces. Good news, indeed. ✷ **Jean Schwab Schork** writes that she was most disappointed to miss reunion, but her schedule for moving from New Jersey to Maine for the summer did not permit travel to Middlebury. Jean keeps busy by directing a women's choral group and by ringing handbells at her church. When her choral group gave a concert at a nearby retirement complex, she was able to see **Eileen Luz Johnston** for a few minutes. ✷ **Margaret** (Muckie) **Hood Kennedy** reports with mixed emotions that reunion caused a three-pound weight increase, thanks to all the gourmet food that was served. Muckie and her daughter arrived at reunion on Friday; their luggage took a more circuitous route and didn't arrive for two more days. We understand from an anonymous source that there was a small fracas at the airport when the Kennedys were returning home. Three burly Transportation Safety Administration men tried to separate Muckie from her luggage for inspection purposes but completely failed to pry Muckie's hands off of her suitcase. She was not going to let her belongings out of her sight again for an instant. (This really didn't happen, y'know. In our experience, TSA personnel are gentlemanly, affable, thorough, and strict, just the way you want them to be.) ✷ **Louise Heald Aines** e-mailed us her regrets about missing reunion. It was the first one she and husband Ron had missed! Ron had been hospitalized shortly after the holidays and Louise had knee surgery in May. She reported that the two of them were mending very well and were looking forward to their next visit to Middlebury. ✷ **Jean Luckhardt Stratton** wrote about Bud's and her leisurely trip back home after reunion. They visited Fort Ticonderoga, Norman Rockwell's town, Robert Frost's home in Shaftsbury, and the tower in Bennington, which is a monument to the War of 1777. Lucky adds that last May she and Bud walked across the Brooklyn Bridge and back again, something few of us have done but have always wanted to do. ✷ We received an enthusiastic e-mail from **Barbara Busing Harris** about her attendance at Alumni College at Bread Loaf in early September. She reports that the courses, the fellowship, and the food were all excellent. As she drove up to the Inn at Bread Loaf, the first people she saw were **Phyllis Faber Warren** and husband Tim. ✷ Confession time. Reunion social co-chairpersons, **Bill** and **Jan Shaw Percival,** have received letters and e-mails from several classmates, stating what a good time they had at reunion and thanking us for all our hard work. We thought for a while about informing y'all how little work we actually did. But then on second thought, we thought "pshaw" and will accept as much credit as we can get, deserved or not. So thanks for the notes—we appreciated getting them.
—Class Secretaries: *Bill (wcpercival@aol.com) and Janet Shaw Percival, 9726 SW 195 Circle, Dunnellon, FL 34432.*

47 REUNION CLASS

Class members seem to have had a relatively quiet time since the last notes were collected. Few news items were received by me, but those few cover many subjects and activities. ✷ The saddest news was the death of two class members. On July 13, **Bonny Morse Rickson Heisler** of Charleston, S.C., died after a fall that broke her arm and hip, which apparently led to a blood clot that took her life. She will be remembered for her artistic talent, eager mind, and intellectual curiosity. The sympathy of her classmates goes to Bonny's son, two daughters, grandchildren, and sisters. She will be especially missed when the class gathers for its 60th reunion. We will also miss **Johnstone** (Jack) **Law** who died on July 28. Jack is survived by wife Mary Jane, a daughter, a son, and two grandchildren, as well as brother Duncan '49 and his wife, Connie Kelly Law '49. We offer sympathy to Jack's family. ✷ A lively news note came from **Lois** (Bussie) **Southgate Badger** in Kennebunkport, Maine, for she and her husband sold their yacht more than a year ago and are enjoying a happy and more relaxed life with family and friends, including eight grandchildren. Delightedly, Bussie reports that her oldest grandson is now the captain of a yacht in the Caribbean. She sees **Joanne Buckeridge Booth** occasionally, or else they talk on the phone. Jo loves living in Portland, Maine, and keeps busy with many activities. ✷ **Phyl Burke Cunningham** echoed the happy sentiments of Jo and Bussie, for she lives in Middlebury and enjoys many activities herself such as concerts and lectures at the College. Sometimes she sees **Alice Neef Perine** at a meeting or a College event. Alice appears to be busy and well. Phyl said more condos are developing in and around Middlebury, and she thought others might be interested in moving near the College. ✷ A call to **Mary** (Mickey) **Pitz Hunt**, who lives just over the border in New Hampshire, found that she had met with several of the group of Vermonters from our class the week before, enjoying lunch and conversation together before the winter weather arrived. Mickey said the group was small this time, but Alice Perine, **Jean Davis Battey**, and **Anita Strassel Tiemann** were there and they enjoyed catching up on one another's news since their last meeting in the spring. They all hope and plan to be at our 60th reunion. ✷ Knowing that Mickey had met with **Alice** (Candy) **De Lorenzo Stansbury** earlier in the summer, your reporter called Candy for her news. She said her summer's highlight was a bus tour to Yellowstone Park, Grand Teton, and on to Salt Lake City. ✷ I caught **Muriel** (Moo) **Mack Lamppert** just after she had returned from a trip to Cape Cod. She enjoyed being there but also said it was very good to get back home. She found the long drive especially tiring; she thought maybe having had both hips and one knee replaced contributed to that! As Moo lives in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, that was quite a drive for those new joints and she deserves credit for doing it. ✷ A last note from this reporter is to share news of attending a WWII 58th Bomb Wing reunion with husband Bill at Bradley Field Air Museum in Connecticut. We went up into the restored B29 bomber there, a huge bomber that served in the India, China, and Tinian Island area late in the war. The B29 at the Air Museum was among the planes almost totally smashed by a freak tornado at the airfield in 1997 or so, and the complete restoration of it has just been finished. To **Jinny Stowell James** it is a mammoth piece of history as well as a miracle of restoration! ✷ We close with a reminder to save the first week of June 2007 for our 60th reunion.
—Class Secretary: *Virginia Stowell James (jinnyjamesj @att.net), 373 Reeds Gap Rd., Northford, CT 06472.*

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Secretary Nourse reports: Retired high school teacher **Dick Caswell**, of Bennington, Vt., proudly boasts of four generations of Caswells at Middlebury: Ginerva Harlow Caswell '15, Dick's mother; Dick, our classmate in '48; son Rick '77; and now grandson Mark, who is a first-year, class of 2010. Dick's smile tells it all! ✷ **Tom Johnson**, a longtime resident of Addison, Vt., recently had knee surgery "below the knee." He is doing well and is the same ol' upbeat guy! ✷ We are sorry to report that **Fred Johnston**'s wife, Louise, recently passed away. For those who would like to write him, Fred's address is 1 Village Green Circle, Southern Pines, NC 28387. ✷ While enjoying the summer at their place in Ludlow, Vt., **Stew Washburn** and wife Barb had lunch with us in our Battell Hill condo. We had a great visit during which we walked the campus and enjoyed both the old and new views. Stew, **Perry Maurer Thompson**, and I participated in the class agents' sessions at the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in September. ✷ We also had lunch with Dr. **Frank Williamson** and wife Mary. They have spent many happy years living on Mary's family homestead in Castleton, Vt., but now they're interested in downsizing. So we showed them our condo as one example of downsizing and we had a great visit. They are a delightful couple. ✷ To one and all: I'd love to hear from you and so, too, will your college friends. Please e-mail or write me. ✷ Secretary Ness reports: **Lee Robbins Otorowski** traveled from Bainbridge Island, Wash., to Franconia, N.H., their summer home, via Newport, R.I. Reason for detour: son Chris was about to sail with his crew on his own Swan boat in the Newport to Bermuda race, a five-day event. He is currently commodore at the Seattle Yacht Club and was recently accepted into the New York Yacht Club. Daughter Julie, a nurse practitioner, works for a very busy gynecologist whose practice covers most of northern N.H. Julie's son, Ian Hohmeister, while skiing during his high school years, was ranked 7th nationally in his class of racing. Although his other grandmother is Middlebury alum Joanne Davis Hohmeister '46, Ian is now a first-year at UMass. Lee continues with her painting and has been showing her watercolors in New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Washington. She has also been in charge of the scholarship art program for the Bainbridge Island high school students. ✷ After retiring, **Susan McWilliams Leighton** and her husband sold their home in Massachusetts and fixed up their vacation home in Lovell, Maine. Much to her amazement, she finds she enjoys having time to "housekeep." Sue has also found time to have two hip replacements plus one knee. They still travel and have been to every continent but Antarctica. Their son apparently likes to travel as well—he is civilian chief engineer on a Navy tanker and most recently did two tours of duty out of Dubai, UAE. ✷ A message came to me on

notepaper featuring a print of a splendid watercolor, "The Coffee Grinder," painted by B. Stuhring. In addition to the coffee grinder, there are apples, fall foliage, and a pinecone, which surely reflect the artist's past. Although she has lived near Seattle for many years, **Barbara Hemenway Stuhring** (Northwest Artist, Watercolor, Ink Drawings) apparently hasn't forgotten her four years with us in Vermont. ✷ Another artist displayed her works this past summer. The Good Tern Food Co-op café in Rockland, Maine, featured the photographs of **Nancy Breed Fitzgerald**. Nancy began her art career after retiring as a special education teacher. Inspired by her gardens, pets, and the local landscape, she uses watercolor, acrylics, pen and ink, and photographs to capture her surroundings. Her work has been displayed frequently in the Midcoast area and she is also one of the Nine Lively Ladies whose work is often on exhibit at Eastern Tire's Garage Gallery in Rockland.

—Class Secretaries: *Elizabeth Bredenberg Ness (elizabeth.ness@verizon.net), 412 N. Wayne Ave., #109, Wayne, PA 19087; and Bartley Nourse (brierpatch2@verizon.net), 16 Nedde Lane, Middlebury, VT 05753.*

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Having located **Phil Deane** and reported on his current activities in the last issue, Secretary Whittier adds these notes about him: Phil served in WWII with the 10th Mountain Infantry Division in the Italian Campaign. Other 10th Mountain Midd veterans were fellow skiers Joe Jones '48, **Bob Gore**, and Tink Bailey '48. At Midd, Phil was on the legendary 1948 ski team, which under the leadership of Coach Bobo Sheehan '44 won the Sun Valley National Intercollegiate Championship as well as the Dartmouth, McGill, and Middlebury Carnivals, and the Intercollegiate Ski Union Championship. Other ski team members included **Don Henderson**, **Jack Valentine**, Paul Kailey '50, Fred Neuberger '50, and Capt. Tink Bailey '48. ✷ **Norm Joslin** writes, "Although retired from full-time Supreme Court service, I serve part-time handling jury selection, expedited jury trials, and arbitrations. We are expecting our first great-grandchild. Our second grandson (sixth grandchild) is entering Princeton, his parents' alma mater. I still enjoy tennis, skiing, and American Baptist work and service. I ski often with my family and spent a week last March in Aspen, Colo., helping with the handicapped veteran's program with my daughter and son-in-law's family who are credentialed ski patrol members and instructors. Wife Jane carries heavy responsibilities as the president of the Twentieth Century club." ✷ We are saddened to report the death of **Patricia Perkins Flagg**. We send our deepest sympathy to her family, especially daughters Tina and Cherie '75. ✷ We send our deep condolences to **Jane Miller Brouwers** whose husband Bill passed away in August. Bill, who was born in the Netherlands and raised in Indonesia, and Jane were married in 1975. ✷ In September and early October, **Pat Allen Guthrie** and husband Dave traveled to Seattle, Banff, Lake Louise, and Glacier Park, before going to visit some of their family. [*We are very sad to report that Pat passed away on December 5. A memorial will appear in the spring issue. Our sympathy is extended to husband Dave and the rest of her family. We deeply appreciate Pat's contributions as class secretary.*] ✷ **Lois Quirk Racz** has moved. "Yes, I've exchanged Cape Cod Bay for the terrain of central Massachusetts and I'm remembering the quote across the chapel exterior, 'The strength of the hills is His also.' I'm one of about 300 founders of a new retirement community, sharing the grounds (happily called a campus!) with a long existing nursing home, assisted living, a chapel, rehab, and other wonderments. Food and programs are tops. I'm hoping to adjust to the erratic air cooling system ere the fabled Worcester county winters begin. I'm easy to visit, between exits 9 and 10 of the Mass Turnpike. And I'd probably have enough spare meal credits to treat you!" Quirkie's new address is 88 Masonic Home Rd., R116, Charlton, MA 01507.

—Class Secretary: *Robert P. Whittier (bbobwhit@aol.com), 35 Waldingfield Rd., South Hamilton, MA 01982.*

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Not having laid eyes on **Nancy Warman Pihlcrantz** for some 55 years, **Elinor Brown Phillips** and **Anna Sherwood Young** decided to stage a mini-reunion last June on Nancy's home ground in Traverse City, Mich. And what a lovely reunion it was! ✷ In Charlotte, Vt., Betty Ann and **Don Lockhart**'s company, Perceptions, Inc., of which Don is president and producer/editor, has completed several videos in the past two years including *Pure Vermont Maple: A Proud Tradition—Voices from the Sugarwoods*; *The Historic Quinlan Schoolhouse*; and *Downeast Lobsterman*. For more information, see www.perceptionsvermont.com. Betty Ann says Don also enjoys sailing on Lake Champlain and cross-country skiing. ✷ When I (Lois) sent a note to **Bard Lindeman**, he said it reached him after passing through the Confederate lines arrayed outside Atlanta. "It is good to hear from the Union forces. We do not get to far-off Middlebury, a school I now barely recognize, yet recall with great fondness and amazing clarity: Look, over there, it's Prof. Reginald Cook on his afternoon walk, long-striding past the football field, where cows watch us gridders." Bard and wife Jan are now enjoying the rural life in Georgia, and he no longer misses NYC where, in the 1950s, he broke into the print journalism scene as a rookie news guy "when there were seven competing dailies, and we fought like cats and dogs." Following his association with the successful (while he was at the helm!) magazine *50 Plus*, for the next 22 years he wrote a weekly syndicated column on aging, and when that came to an end, he experienced seven whole months of idleness. But now he says he has "few reasons to sleep late or hang around in saloons or bother about crabgrass." He's back in the business of doing a weekly column on aging, self-syndicated this time. In addition he does editorial consulting for "Generations United," a Washington-based group, as well as for "Second Wind Dreams" of Alpharetta, Ga., a group of women (and a stray man) who make sensible dreams come true for nursing home residents. Both of these groups have Web sites, as does Bard: www.beoutrageous.com. (Bard wrote a book published in 1998 entitled *Be An Outrageous Older Man.*) He would like to write about old football warriors "and focus upon gentleman **John Corbisiero**, maybe the BEST Midd ever saw." ✷ We regret to report the death of **Elly Flett Kingsland** on August 2. Anna Young writes, "In our little Hillside Cottage, 13 relieved and happy young women found themselves off the wait list and on the Middlebury campus. We were a nicely compatible group, and Elly, although the smallest of us, was a force to contend with, very sure of herself, with a wry sense of humor. Freshman year Elly starred in the little theater on Weybridge St. as the daughter in Van Druten's *I Remember Mama.* Although she thrived in her long career as a college librarian, Elly for all of her life regretted that she was unable to make use of her outstanding French language education at Middlebury. Try as she might to get a job as a translator, Elly was turned down time and again because in that day the jobs were considered more suitable for men." **Ginny Ringo Cleary** adds, "Elly was a loyal and fervent supporter of Middlebury. Her years there were filled with friends, French, and theater. A picture of Elly would show a very delighted laugh from a very slight-sized person. She loved being co-secretary of our class, enjoying the communication with our classmates. We will miss Elly at future reunions, and will invite Bob to join us in 2010. We send our love and best wishes to Bob and the Kingsland family." ✷ We also regret to report that **Jim Newman** died on August 6. **Phil Porter** had this memory of Jim: "I admired Jim Newman from the first week at Middlebury, freshman year—for a paradoxical reason. There was a Middlebury tradition of freshman wearing a blue beanie during fall semester. For the many returning veterans in the fall of 1946, who had had their fill of discipline and following orders, wearing a beanie was not on. I went along with everyone else. Jim was the only member of the freshman class that did wear his beanie everywhere, to class, around campus, and on his daily cross-country run out past the golf course. By conforming, he stood out as a principled nonconformist. I like to think he used this approach throughout his life." We send our sympathy to wife Elizabeth Huey Newman '51 and all the rest of his family. ✷ **Jim Luke** writes, "Ralph Loveys '51 (who married my sister, Persis Luke Loveys '53) and I have been in the real estate construction and development business for the last 50 years. Time goes by when you're having fun! We stay in touch with Connie and **Sam Donnellon**. Sam Jr. is a Philadelphia sports celebrity (sports writer and TV show), a chip off the old block!" ✷ **Dex Whittinghill** became a reasonably healthy octogenarian in July and has successfully survived as a minority conservative in Lexington, Mass., for 36 years. After double-knee replacement last October, he's back to playing golf and mixed-doubles tennis, fly-fishing, yard work, and taking long walks. He and wife Norma Horsford Whittinghill '51 also play a lot of bridge. They thoroughly enjoy visiting and corresponding with their three college-age granddaughters. Luckily they had a chance to dine with Leigh '06 and family at the Dog Team Tavern in May before it burned down. They spent Thanksgiving in New Jersey with son Whitt '76 and family. Future plans include possibly moving to a retirement village in a year. ✷ **Barbara Kraft Packer** writes, "A year ago January, Tod and I sold our house of 30 years and moved to a condo where we can walk most places. My sister, Marcia Kraft Goin '54, persuaded us to attend the March Alumni College out in Monterey, Calif. We had five wonderful days with a biology course based at the aquarium and were amazed at all the wonderful creatures in the water. We were also impressed with our guided tour of the Monterey Institute for International Studies. More Alumni College work came on the Bread Loaf campus at the end of August, where I had a chance to learn about civil liberties and the Constitution in wartime (covered seven wars). That came after a two-week Cruise West tour of Alaska where we got 'up close and personal' with beautiful glaciers and whales."

—Class Secretaries: *Lois Rapp McIlwain (wrappsody@aol.com), 6 Post Rd., Malvern, PA 19355; and Philip W. Porter (pwporter@verizon.net), Kendal at Hanover #203, 80 Lyme Rd., Hanover, NH 03755.*

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The first response to our request for news came from Japan! **Malcolm MacGregor**, visiting there for the first time, found Tokyo sophisticated and civilized, the people gracious and helpful. He is wintering in Fort Lauderdale as usual. ✳ **John** and **Helen Reid Gilmore** had a mini-reunion with son James '81 and wife Cameron, son Bob and wife Amy, and **Liz Nelson**, and later took part in some of our reunion weekend before heading to a granddaughter's graduation from St. Paul's School, also seeing there son-in-law Mark Gordon '79. They also report that they are the proud grandparents of twins, babies of Bob and Amy! Helen says they are in touch with **Renton Bond**, still in western Pennsylvania, and reports that Jean and **Dick Perry** now live in a retirement village in Utah. ✳ Bob and **Lee Webster McArthur** missed reunion; Bob was recovering from a stroke. As of the end of September, they were in Hilton Head for a couple of months, looking forward to seeing **Beth Huey Newman**. ✳ **Bill** and **Phyllis Cole Deming** attended the groundbreaking ceremony in Middlebury for the Donald Everett Axinn '51 Center for Literary and Cultural Studies at Starr Library. It was a fall day of Vermont weather legend, sandwiched between two days of Vermont 2006 legend—rain! **Will Jackson** was there with wife Carolyn (Bennett) '61, having missed Alumni College. Instead they opted for birding and national park visiting in Brazil and, Will added, glorying in the beautiful beaches of Rio. **Jim** and Ann McGinley '53 **Ross** were there, Jim telling of his life "in the booth" for Middlebury football games since 1966, first in charge of the scoreboard and currently devoted to the game clock. ✳ After seeing Bill and Phyllis at the ceremony, **Don Axinn** sent them this update: "I have two new books of poems, *El Sueno del Halcon*, published in Peru, and *Walking Through the Night*, published in Mexico. One page is in Spanish, the other in English. I have just been asked to join the Smithsonian Woodrow Wilson Scholars' Mexican Institute board, which will be very challenging and stimulating. Their biannual meeting takes place in December in Mexico City, and coincidentally, through our State Department, my books are to be 'launched' during that time with a reading and reception. In other news, Jamie Redford and I are making an important documentary on the Ramapough Indians who live up in the mountains in New Jersey on the New York state line. Ford Motor Co., from their plant in Mahway, has dumped toxic wastes on the Ramapough's lands for 30 years, polluting water and the ground, causing terrible cancers and early deaths. The area has been reclassified as one of the worst Superfund sites by the EPA. We've been selected to do the documentary, and if done well, it should be in theaters. Interest has been strong from overseas." ✳ Phyllis and Bill Deming went to Alumni College at Bread Loaf in September and enjoyed friends old and new, scrumptious food, fun brain-stretching classes, and a location perfect for walking, Adirondack chair-sitting and, says Bill, practice fly-casting at the pond. Two weeks later they were at Bread Loaf for a session on how to be a class secretary, including ways to beg (Phyllis's translation) for cards, letters, e-mails, phone calls—anything you want to send at any time of the year, even a Christmas letter. ✳ We would love to hear whatever news you'd like to share, and thank you to those we heard from this time.

—Class Secretaries: *William and Phyllis Cole Deming (bding@verizon.net), 143 Marsett Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

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REUNION CLASS

Your secretary Jeanne met with Joan and **Bob Woodbury** the day before they were to fly home to Colorado. They spent a wonderful summer at the old family home in Essex, Mass., enjoying many days at beautiful Good Harbor Beach in Gloucester. ✳ **Joe Davis** reports that he was the only member of the Class of 1952 to attend the Gordon C. Perine '49 Alumni Golf Tournament in September. ✳ In July **Ruth Shonyo Trask** and **Bill Trask** attended a Shonyo family reunion at the Barton (Vt.) golf club. Following the evening barbecue, while driving daughter Laurie's car, Bill grazed a bull moose when it ran into the driver's side door. Fortunately, no harm was done. They also spent a minivacation with son Terry and his family in a lovely Victorian overlooking Newport Beach, R.I., and the cliff walk. They are looking ahead to our 55th on June 1–3, 2007. We hope you are as well!

—Class Secretaries: *Jeanne Parker Cahill, 10 Old Planters Rd., Beverly, MA 01915; and Joe Davis (sensei@valley.net), P.O. Box 3, The Ridge, Orford, NH 03777.*

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Please send us your news! We want to be able to report on all the interesting activities of the Class of 1953.

—Class Secretaries: *Mrs. Joseph W.S. Davis Jr. (Ann Golding) (sensei@valley.net), P.O. Box 3, The Ridge, Orford, NH 03777; and Verne Goodwin (vpgoody@vail.net), 4410 Columbine Dr., Vail, CO 81657.*

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We'd love to hear from you! Send in your news so we can all stay up to date on each other's activities!

—Class Secretaries: *Mrs. Robert B. Nickerson (Nancy Whittemore) (forger@prodigy.net), 4 Osprey Ln., Mystic, CT 06355; and Thomas C. Ryan (trn@aol.com), 3 Knipp Rd., Houston, TX 77024.*

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Billi Blair sent the following on a wonderful '55 gathering in New York: "On April 23, **Bob Fleming**, **Alan Frese**, **Anthony Mangione**, **Bob Murphy**, **Ed Thomson**, and I enjoyed a reunion at the home of **John** and **Kathy Hughes von Hartz**. After a delicious dinner prepared by Kathy and a fabulous mango dessert, we continued lively conversation around the table New York style until late in the evening. We finally went our separate ways, each of us taking home a gift copy of John's novel." ✳ **George Limbach**, our indefatigable Midd '55 Vail Ski Week organizer, reported that the following will definitely be coming to Vail: Dave and **Sally Dickerman Brew**, Sylvia and **Gordon Brown**, **Bruce** and **Sue Heyer Byers**, **Judd Zecher Colton**, Caleb and **Sidney Brock Gates**, **Scotty MacGregor Gillette**, **Pat Hinman Makin**, George and Ann Limbach, Linda and **Frank Punderson**. All classmates are encouraged to join in this lively mini-reunion. For classmates who don't want to spend time on the hill, other activities can be found at Vail such as cross-country skiing or village walking. The dates are February 24–March 3. Contact George for further information on lodging and evening activities. ✳ Sue Byers reports that Alumni College in September was a booming success. The Class of '55 attendees were Bruce and Sue Byers, **Dick** and **Mary Lou King Wollmar**, Kathy and John von Hartz, Frank and Linda Punderson, Maeve and **John Field**, **Midge Van Leuvan**, **Nancy Walker Faulkner**, Judd Colton, and **Nancy Carpenter Ellis**. "Some were grinding through Supreme Court cases on freedom of speech in wartime, others dabbling in the occult and witchcraft, and a few 'lightweights' stressing out about having to make pesto and espresso in a course on Italian cuisine and culture. I suggest our classmates consider attending next year, thereby creating a mini-reunion in the atmosphere of Bread Loaf." ✳ For anyone thinking of visiting Alaska, Esther and **Roy Craig** say do it! Nature unspoiled, animals in their habitat, scenery everywhere to stop you in your tracks. A very memorable trip for them. ✳ After doing some research on his Midd relatives, **Robert J. Wiley** has developed quite a list! Apparently it all began with Charles Jolls Ormsbee, class of 1856, who "was killed in the Civil War, fighting with a Vermont volunteer unit in Virginia." Robert has his ancestor's Civil War tin document box containing three medals and other items. Then there was Edgar (Cap) Jolls Wiley, class of 1913, who held various administrative positions at Middlebury, including dean of men. Cap's wife, Pruda Harwood Wiley, class of 1912, was a co-writer of Middlebury song "Gamaliel Painter's Cane." Other family members included Gordon Edgar Wiley '28 (who captained the football team), Peggy Wiley Thomson '41 (Cap's daughter), David Paul Thomson '51 (husband of Peggy), Mary-Louise Wiley Bond '51 (daughter of Gordon), Robert John Wiley (son of Gordon), James Gordon Wiley '64 (son of Gordon), David P. Thomson II '68 (son of Peggy), and Laura Bond Besignano '80 (daughter of Mary Louise). Another ancestor, Ellen Elizabeth Wiley, graduated from St. Lawrence, but became an associate prof. of mathematics at Middlebury. Then, of course, there was Elizabeth Hack Simons '27, who passed away last fall at age 100. A very venerable Middlebury family indeed.

—Class Secretaries: *Sally Dickerman Brew (sdbrew1@mindspring.com), 629 Benvenue Ave., Los Altos, CA 94024; and Thomas J. Lamson (lslamson1@msn.com), 92 Heath Rd., North Andover, MA 01845.*

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We—**Judy Phinney Stearns** and **Dick Powell**—are honored to serve as your new class secretaries. We invite you to share whatever is going on in your lives—your passions, family, travels, projects, reflections—at any time, and by any means. E-mail is the easiest method so please be sure the College has your latest e-mail address or send it to us. We also welcome snail mail! ✳ Judy attended the 2006 Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf where the trees were turning and the people were wonderful as always. "The '56ers present were class agents **Pat Hunter Highley**, **Heloise Gilmore Depew** (with husband Chuck), **Cynthia Holt Hunt**, **Hawley** (Jonesie) **Jones**, and **Stan Hayward**. **Ned** and Ellie Maier '57 **MacDowell** were also there, as well as **Charlie** and Heather Hamilton '57 **Robinson** and **Mona Meyers Wheatley**, our cheerleader extraordinaire. The spirit of our 50th still surrounded us. Most of us stayed in a little cottage across from the Bread Loaf Inn and shared a tiny bathroom at the end of the hall. Cozy and remarkably workable." She adds, "Create an opportunity for yourself as a class agent by contacting Stan Hayward at sandphayward@yahoo. com." ✳ Word has it that **Walter Mears**, Pulitzer Prize-winning national political writer for The Associated Press, recently won the National Press Club's President's Citation for distinguished contributions to journalism. In part, the citation reads, "Walter Mears remains an inspiration to those political journalists who follow his footsteps on the campaign trail, and his standard of excellence is one we all hope to emulate." Walt retired in 2001 after almost

45 years at the AP, including stints as Washington bureau chief and executive editor. He spent much of his 35 years in the Washington bureau as the wire service's political writer, and won the Pulitzer Prize for national reporting for his coverage of the 1976 presidential campaign. He is the author of *Deadlines Past*, a memoir of his coverage of 11 presidential campaigns for AP. Commenting on this honor, Walt said, "I told people it was a citation for being old and still standing. And that as Carl Yazstremski once said, if you play the same long enough, you'll probably get 3,000 hits." ✳ In other awards news, **John Webber** received the 2006 American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the Second Circuit (N.Y., Conn., Vt.), which was presented to him by Chief Judge John Walker at a ceremony held at the U.S. Court of Appeals Court House in NYC. He writes, "This equates really to service to other lawyers, the bar in general, and, perhaps, to work in outside areas. You do not get this recognition without a lot of friends. I guess I had a few!" Congratulations, John and Walt! ✳ **Dick Catlin** will once again host a mini-reunion at Timberlock, his resort in the Adirondacks, September 6–7, 2007, but needs to know as soon as possible if you want to attend. Contact Dick at dick@timberlock.com. ✳ Finally, we are saddened to have heard that **R. Hamilton "Tony" Rice** passed away on August 12. **Fred Parsons** and **Bob Santomenna** sent this lovely remembrance of Tony: "We learned of Tony's death from **Ellen Child Berry**. Fred goes way back with Tony, to their early years in Goffstown, N.H., where he met the twins across the street—**Anne** and Tony **Rice**. It was clear from the start that everyone adored Anne, a pretty, straight-A student, taller than her twin brother. So Tony did just about anything he could to offset her envious position, except for equaling her academic achievement. Tony and Fred became 'Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn friends.' Anne, Tony, and Fred all became members of the Class of '56. Tony, Fred, and Bob pledged KDR and the three of them roomed together at the House their sophomore year. From the beginning Tony was a large presence, figuratively speaking, in the fraternity. He was an officer and the representative to the IFC, where he made his mark. Over four years Fred watched the emergence of Tony, from the shadow of his sister, as a very good student with a confident, just short of swashbuckling, persona—especially on the ski slopes. Fred, **Dwight Stimson**, and Tony were instrumental in bringing new life and vigor to the Ski Patrol at a time when 'the Bowl' was energized by the installation of the first Poma Lift in the U.S." Dick Powell remembers Tony as a "special guy with a wry sense of humor and always a comeback." Bob recalls those qualities being adroitly applied as Tony commented on Bob's failure to equip his 1947 Ford with snow tires—the result was the sale of a pair of "Rice Mud and Snows." Fred expresses it best: "Tony, probably unconsciously, would always endeavor to make his mark. I imagine as a result he touched many people. He surely touched me forever." ✳ **Talents needed**: Why don't we have a class Web site like some of the other classes have? The College will set it up but will need one of us to help develop it. Check out the established ones at the College Web site. Click on Alumni then on Class Web Pages. Let us know if you'd like to help. ✳ Stay well, and stay in touch.

—Class Secretaries: *Dick Powell (repowell55@comcast.net), 13518 Ryton Ridge Ln., Gainesville, VA 20155; and Judy Phinney Stearns (jashill@vermontel.net), 53 Carriage Dr., Glastonbury, CT 06033.*

57 REUNION CLASS

At Vermont's 10th annual Women's Economic Opportunity Conference in October, artist **Sabra Field** gave the keynote address. The conference offers everything from personal growth to financial planning and starting your own business to learning how to relax. The focus this year was on Vermont's creative economy and Sabra's studio is an example of success in that area. ✳ In September, **Francis Hall** represented Middlebury at the inauguration of a new president at the Univ. of Mary Washington. ✳ Don't forget that our 50th is coming up June 1–3! We hope to see you there!

—Class Secretaries: *Mary Ellen Bushnell (bushnell@mit.edu), P.O. Box 504, Peterborough, NH 03458; and S. Wyman Rolph (swrolph@yahoo.com), 788 Weeden Hill Rd., Windsor, VT 05089.*

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Shirley Whitney Juneo writes that last year her daughter and sisters surprised her with a "Red Hat" 70th birthday party at the Waybury Inn. One of the reasons it was such a surprise was that the party happened in July and her birthday is in November! Midd friends who attended were Adrienne Delaney '57 and home economics teacher Pat McCarthy Whitney. Various townspeople, friends, neighbors, and high school buddies came as well. "Daughter Jenny commissioned Sabra Field '57 to do a picture of our view overlooking Lake Dunmore with Moosalamoo in the background. (We are fortunate to live on the site of the old Lake Dunmore Hotel, a.k.a. the North 40.) Needless to say, I was blown away! Bob and I also celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary at a five-star resort in Canada. All-in-all, it was a banner year!" ✳ In November, Dr. **Donald Booth** was inducted as a fellow of dental surgery into the Royal College of Surgeons of England in a formal ceremony at the College's London headquarters. He says, "It is a special honor for me to be elected to this organization whose origins date back to the reign of Henry VIII in 1540." The College has elected just four American oral and maxillofacial surgeons in its history. Don is a professor and chair emeritus of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Boston Univ. School of Dental Medicine. He served as department chair from 1970–2001 during which time he oversaw the initiation and growth of the resident training program in oral and maxillofacial surgery.

—Class Secretaries: *Stephanie Eaton (stephanie.eaton@leg.state.nh.us), 243 Pleasant St., Littleton, NH 03561; Ann Ormsbee Frobose (aspof@sbcglobal.net), 2370 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566; and Joseph E. Mohbat (jmohbat@msn.com), 551 Pacific St., Brooklyn, NY 11217.*

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For this issue, your class secretaries asked for book recommendations as well as other news. Some book suggestions appear here and some will be in the spring issue. ✳ **Paul Schosberg** recommends two books. One is *The Bonus Army: An American Epic*, by Paul Dickson and Thomas B. Allen (Walker and Company, 2004): "an immensely readable account of how WWI veterans navigated a political battlefield as treacherous as any they faced in Europe, without which the GI Bill might never have been passed." The other is *Last Night*, by James Salter (Random House, 2006), a collection of short stories. "Susan Sontag said of Salter, 'He is among the very few North American writers all of whose work I want to read, whose as-yet-unpublished books I wait for impatiently.' This is exactly how I have always felt about his writing since his very first book, *The Hunters*, came out around the time we were at Midd." ✳ **Harriette Moseley Purdy** recommends *If You Lived Here, I'd Know Your Name*, by Heather Lende '81 (Algonquin Books, 2005). The daughter of Bob '56 and the late Sally Smith Vuillet '56, Heather describes her life with husband Chip '79 and their children in Haines, Alaska, a place accessible only by plane or boat, with no hospital nor mail delivery, and with severe weather, wild animals, and an inaccessibility to civilization. Harriette adds, "She and her family are truly modern day pioneers. A fascinating read." ✳ **Bill Hussey** suggests *Maps for Lost Lovers*, by Nadeem Aslam (Faber and Faber Ltd., 2005): "a fascinating book about conflicts the Pakistani community in England has with cultural adjustments; the story revolves around the murder of a woman and her lover by her brothers after her rejection of an arranged marriage with a cousin back in Pakistan." ✳ **Steve Cohen** recommends the following: *Birds Without Wings*, by Louis de Bernières (Knopf, 2004); *Blindness*, by Jose Saramago (Harvill Press, 1997); *Deafening*, by Frances Itani (HarperCollins, 2003); *The Time Traveler's Wife*, by Audrey Niffenegger (MacAdam/Cage, 2003); *The Confessions of Max Tivoli*, by Andrew Sean Greer (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2004). Longer versions of these recommendations appear in the Reading Recommendations section of our class's Web site. ✳ In other news, Steve Cohen, still working as a urologist, looks forward to spending more time at his home in Naples, Fla. He remains a facilitator for the Baltimore Cancer support group, helping people "say good-bye." He adds, "Each Midd child (Michael '89 and Laura '92) has given me two grandchildren and I am a pretty happy guy." ✳ Having retired from teaching 12 years ago, **Betty Mix Waisanen** is now an exhibiting artist in watercolors and also runs a small art business. During her teaching years, Betty started and ran a nursery school, then for many years taught pre-kindergarten students with the Board of Cooperative Educational Services. One of her specialties was teaching disadvantaged four-year-olds, helping them meet learning criteria for kindergarten. Betty and her husband live in Port Jefferson, N.Y. ✳ **Paul Schosberg** writes, "In the fall Jane and I took our eighth safari in Africa, a trip with notable differences. For one, I took part in the first-ever African Wildlife Foundation board of trustees meeting in Africa (the last meeting of my second three-year term). Then several of us traveled to the Virunga Highlands—where Rwanda, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo meet—for several days of communing with the mountain gorillas. A significant perk of being a trustee of AWF! Jane and I spent some time back in the Amboseli and Masai Mara regions of Kenya, where we have established long-lasting friendships with conservationists and researchers. We got a great boost from a visit with **Jim** and **Anne Weston McGowan** in early July. We try to do this each year as they head back to Illinois from their hideaway on the coast of Maine. It's a reunion we always cherish." Jane has recovered from heart surgery a year ago at the Mayo Clinic, and Paul looks forward to playing tennis again this spring, when he will have recovered from a knee replacement. ✳ **Harriette Moseley Purdy** has been busy with grandson Ryan Christopher, born on June 22. ✳ Pat and **Fred Swan** enjoyed a recent two-week trip in southwestern France. They hiked near Sarlat and then rented canal boats with other

couples to cruise the Dordogne and Lot river systems. ✳ **Earle** and **Betty Layer Hoyt** traveled again to Alaska in the late summer and once again photographed bears (see the class Web site, Classmates section, for their photo of a grizzly cub). ✳ **Bob** and Polly Philbrick '60 **Ray** have built a new house in Westerly, R.I., and will move there from New Hampshire in February. ✳ **Stu Purdy** writes, "I have not retired and wish I had more time to read books. Spent the first week of September in a rented cabin on Lake Dunmore, where I did find time to do some reading; also climbed Mt. Moosalamoo. By the time I reached the top I was ready to be airlifted back down. I'm sad to report that, the day before I arrived at Middlebury, the Dog Team Tavern burned to the ground. I drove out there but there was little to see but a pile of ashes and haunting memories." ✳ We are saddened to report the death of Col. **Joel Roberts** on July 2. We send our sympathy to wife **Ginny Aretz Roberts** and to all his family and friends. ✳ Visit the **Class of '59 ongoing Web site:** http://www.middlebury.edu/alumni/class_pages/1959/default.htm.

—Class Secretaries: *Bill Hussey (billhusseyMidd59@aol.com), 203 E. 72nd St., #6B, New York, NY 10021; and Lucy Paine Kezar (lpkezar@rcn.com), 134 Main St., Kingston, NH 03848.*

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With **Bill Stritzler** at the helm, Smuggler's Notch Resort was named by *Ski Magazine* (for the seventh time) as the number one place for families to ski in North America. ✳ Since retiring from the Stinehour Press two years ago, **Fletcher** (Duke) **Manley** and a lady friend have been living in northern New Hampshire. Springtime usually finds them exploring the backcountry in the Southwest. In summer, they belong to an active group of "60-something" cyclists. Working with an associate at the Riverbend Studio, Duke's digitally reproducing artwork for publishers throughout New England. He still skis and has been connecting with **Al Lamson**, Peter Swallow '65, Spencer Jackson '62, and John Sinclair '62 at Sunday River in Maine. ✳ In July **Brud Folger** sailed to Northeast Harbor, Maine, with John and Nancy Sinclair. Brud still flies for Penobscot Island Air to the islands off the Maine coast. At the Sinclair farm, Brud attended the biennial "Cow Sh— Party" along with Al Lamson and wife Jean (Yeomans) '62, **John Gilwee**, **Ralph Cobb**, **Sherm Russ**, Duke Manley, and **David** and **Sue Goodwin Hopkins**, plus about 65 Midd Kids and friends. ✳ As development coordinator for the Loon Preservation Committee in New Hampshire, **Ali Macpherson Hodges** had the usual hectic summer in the Lakes Region. Although she didn't know him at Middlebury, she hikes or kayaks frequently with Chuck Brox '62, who volunteers at the Loon Center. ✳ **Tom Irwin** and his wife enjoyed the changing colors at their northern Vermont camp before returning to their home in Essex, Vt. During summer, Tom hikes, bikes, and kayaks while his wife does quilting. Their son and wife are living in Morrisville, Vt., where son Brian teaches history at Lake Region High School in Orleans, while his wife is curator of the ski museum in Stowe. Daughter Rebecca '96 (who teaches biology at Dartmouth) and her husband do summer research at the Rocky Mountain Biological Lab in Gothic, Colo. They have purchased a home in Norwich, Vt. Tom and his wife enjoyed helping them paint and move in. ✳ **Dotty Cattelle** made a good recovery from a total knee replacement in February 2006. In March her church choir did Mendelssohn's *Elijah,* complete with orchestra. In June they went on a two-week singing/sightseeing tour in Ireland and Wales. They sang in marvelous venues, met wonderful people, and saw beautiful scenery. Dotty works with Habitat for Humanity, on both local projects and Hurricane Katrina rebuilding. ✳ Lee and **John Howard** have moved to Sausalito, Calif., to be close to some of their kids and grandkids—quite a change for lifelong New Englanders. John passes the time working on the house, butchering wood in the workshop, and trying to keep the TR4 going. He had a good time with **Bruce Burnham**, **Leon Vancini**, **Dick Atkinson**, **Bob Hall**, **Art Myles**, and **Bill French** at their 50th Loomis reunion. ✳ Lee Vancini was in Tuscany last March, visiting a stepdaughter studying in Florence for one semester of junior year. ✳ In August Ann and **Lee Farnham** took her granddaughter (9) to western New Mexico for 10 glorious days without TV, radio, newspapers, or cell phones. The camp Lee attended in the early '50s, near Thoreau, N.M., had a series of trips to El Malpais (lava fields) National Monument, El Morro (Inscription Rock) National Monument, Chaco Canyon National Historical Park, and the Zuni Pueblo, where they saw a rain dance. On their return they had a nice tour of Houston with Stu Purdy '59. They marked their 20th anniversary with an October trip to Monterey, Calif., where they toured the Monterey Institute, went on a pelagic birding trip, and visited the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Still working full-time, Ann is a self-employed landscape architect and Lee is a financial advisor with Wachovia. ✳ Reporting from Perth, Australia, **Sally Porter Hoedemaker** was interested in news of our reunion that she missed. Tennis, birding, and first-and-only grandchild Joseph Pieter (1.5) keep her busy. She hopes to make it to the States in 2007. ✳ **John Coombs** reported from Macon, Ga., that they attended two 50th high school reunions last spring. ✳ **John Karlik** and his wife retired three years ago, she from the Montgomery County (Md.) schools and John from the International Monetary Fund. Their son, a mechanical engineering senior at MIT, will enter the Navy, hopefully to fly. Their daughter is a premed junior at Brown. The Karliks divide their time between their home in Bethesda and a cabin on Deep Creek Lake in far western Maryland. He postpones physical deterioration by cycling, rowing, cross-country and telemark skiing, occasional windsurfing and sailing, and cutting and splitting wood to heat the cabin. Noting that it is easy to focus excessively on international disasters and the failures of U.S. policy, he recommends getting involved in a few organizations, avoiding the news once in a while, and continuing to fish. John and **Ted Buhl** planned to ski together in December at Vail. ✳ **Jan Fisher Barstad** reports the Newport (R.I.) City Council approved their archaeological excavation in Touro Park to discover who built the Newport Tower. Although they know Gov. Benedict Arnold (ancestor of the traitor) owned the Tower, he did not build it. After a ground-penetrating radar survey discovered building foundations nobody knew about, their dig was finally approved. (Info available at www.chronognostic.org.) ✳ **Polly Philbrick Ray** and husband Bob '59 recently met **Breck** and **Sue Hibbert Lardner** for lunch near Essex, Conn., where they live. (Sue and Polly were freshman-year roommates.) While building a year-round house in Westerly, R.I., where they have summered for many years, the Rays are hunkered down in their beach cottage. Bob grew up in the area and they have long wanted to return. ✳ Attending Alumni College in September, Amy and **Mike Robinson** ran into **Skip Ingold**, who was back for his umpteenth Alumni College session. Mike, along with **Peter** and **Jean Emrich Battelle** and **Jean Seeler-Gifford**, was at Bread Loaf for Alumni Leadership Conference in September. Jean had just been to her 50th high school reunion, where she reconnected with **Anne De Sola Paust**. ✳ **Lindy Hill Reed** cannot transfer her old address list to her new computer, so she would appreciate it if classmates would send her a note so she can update her address book. Her new e-mail address is mkhreed@comcast.net. ✳ **Libby Kelley** spent the summer caring for first grandchild Faith (20 mos.), when her daughter had a C-section delivering #2 grandchild Joshua. At her 50th high school reunion in Washington, D.C., last spring, Libby was amazed how classmates felt like family, despite the lack of contact with each other for 50 years. ✳ Dr. **James Coward** gave a talk entitled "Mechanistic Biochemistry and the Design of New Drugs" on campus last November. Jim is a prof. of chemistry and medicinal chemistry at the Univ. of Michigan. ✳ Dud '59 and **Nona Lyons Livingston** are fortunate that daughter Stephanie and her family live nearby in Big Sky, Mont., as does son Josh. Son Scott is in Milwaukee. They ski 100 days a year, fish and golf in the summer, and love it in Big Sky. They leave during the mud season and spent three weeks last May in Greece, where they chartered a 46-foot sloop and sailed the small Greek islands along the Turkish coast. ✳ We are very sorry to report the deaths of **Nancy Sharp Van Vranken** this past summer and **Allyn Moorman Sullivan** on September 5. Our condolences are extended to their families and friends.

—Class Secretaries: *Jean Seeler-Gifford (jeandave@mindspring.com), 1529 Steeple Ct., Trinity, FL 34655; and Vevy Strekalovsky (vs@shrarchitects.com), 47 Fearing Rd., Hingham, MA 02043.*

Upcoming Alumni Event

FEBRUARY 3–10, 2007
Alumni Ski Outing
Aspen, Colorado

Get together at Will and Carolyn Jackson's condo at 6:30 p.m. on February 3

For more information, contact Sandy Bolton at sbolton777@aol.com 303-979-5967

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Secretary Crampton sends this report about '61ers who couldn't make it to reunion: **Phil** and Eileen Glasoe '62 **Latreille** attended Chuck Gately's '62 annual golf outing in Chicago where they got to spend time with '62ers Tom and Marren Ward Meehan, and John and Betty Allen Hornbostel, among others. The Latreilles, who have wintered at Harbour Ridge in Stuart, Fla., since 1987, have had dinner with Mike '59 and Lynde Sudduth Karin '62. Susan and I were looking forward to seeing Phil and Eileen this winter, as they frequently visit Vero Beach for golf outings. ✳ **Jeff Foran** was sorry to miss reunion, but delighted to hear the campaign results, due in part to his efforts. Still teaching at

Stanford, Jeff is active with Save the Children Foundation and the Decision Education Foundation. He recently spent time in Palestine and the Gaza Strip to assess the impact of the Hamas election on the 100-plus Save the Children projects in that area. In Jeff's words, "The Palestinians are a remarkable people living in a virtual siege state for years. It is a third-world country existing a few yards away from a first-world country. The reasons for this strange juxtaposition of realities are many and complex but startling to observe. Save the Children's work there in health care and education is nearly miraculous and the best antidote for terror I have seen so far." Jeff and wife Karen continue to stretch themselves cycling, with a goal of some long trips within the U.S. and venturing overseas to places like Croatia or Ireland in 2007. Susan and I hope to join them, as we have been on several foreign bike trips that have been terrific, including one to New Zealand's South Island last year. Biking over the Southern Alps was spectacular. ✷ Although **Peter Spalding** missed this reunion, he's already on record that he will be at our 50th. He's retired from the State Department, but has been called back as a consultant for various department conferences since then, primarily the Asia Pacific Economic Forum (APEC), which takes place every year in different Asian capitals. This past summer found him in Rome with the UN Mission to the UN agencies. Peter also serves on boards of NGOs dealing with homeless issues. Of interest to our class, Peter ran into Bill Castor '51, who was in D.C. attending a stamp collection conference. As I remember, Bill was a frequent and favorite chaperone to many frat parties. Bill is well and would love to hear from anyone in the class at 813 Ryan St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. He spoke fondly of the Colonel—I can't understand why. ✷ **Bill** and **Ajka Cebe-Habersky Wallace** regretted missing reunion. Now living in Glenwood Springs, Colo., their house has a beautiful view of Mt. Sopris. (Mt. Sopris is located in Carbondale, stomping grounds of Jane and **Tim Moore**, of course.) Being near six major ski areas gives them the flexibility to pick and choose, depending on the weather. Ajka works at the local hospital one day a week, between outdoor activities. Bill is active in the Executive Service Corps, a group of retired execs that offers help and advice to nonprofits, and is working with Habitat for Humanity. He was selected to attend the Army War College as one of 150 civilians brought in to interact with officers and listen to talks on national strategy—a wonderful opportunity to interact and appreciate the fine officers attending the college. ✷ Speaking of Colorado, save the date, lubricate those knees (or get new ones) for the next annual '61ers ski reunion. The shootout will be the week of February 3-10, 2007, in Aspen! Den Mother **Carolyn Bennett Jackson** and her ne'er-do-well tagalong Will, Tim and Jane Moore, and Bill and Ajka Wallace will be opening their respective homes to host parties for the hordes of merrymakers who will descend on the region. Come ski, party, and enjoy each other's company and the ambiance of the Aspen area. Questions, comments, suggestions? Contact **Sandy Bolton**, another ski-week organizer, at sbolton777@aol.com or 303-979-5967. As an added bonus to the weekend, the ones who come prepared to give the correct answer to the following question are in for a big surprise: Tim Moore has retired and now works part-time in a butcher shop in Carbondale. Tim is 6'2"—what will he weigh February 3-10?

—Class Secretary: *Steve Crampton (scrampton@aol.com), 259 Hines Point, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.*

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Judy Roësset reports, "After a month in England in July, I went hiking for two weeks in Telfes, Austria, where who should I meet up with but an American family from Harrogate, England, where classmate **Bonnie Bonnaviat** lives. In walking one day with the son, Mike, I discovered that she had been his French teacher! She has retired, but he said she was a terrific teacher! Another instance of 'what a small world!' " ✷ An update from **Jim Bernene** related, "We are about to welcome our seventh grandchild into the family. Three of these are the children of son Chris '90 and wife Holly (Beatty) '90 so we're doing our best to raise Middlebury legacies. I am planning to step down from my job as Chief of Medicine at the Hospital of Central Connecticut effective January 2008, but I will stay on part-time to teach and see some patients. I was awarded a Mastership in the American College of Physicians, and I've always heard that this designation is the first sign of 'brain death' so I thought it was time to step aside. We will split our time between Avon, Conn., and Bonita Springs, Fla. We just completed a sabbatical in New Zealand and plan to continue to travel as often and as long as we can. I see a few classmates periodically and we played golf with **Pete** and Janie Bachelder '63 **Johnson** in North Carolina recently. Life is still full and good and I'm looking forward to seeing our classmates next year for our 45th!" ✷ In Connecticut, Superior Court Judge **Howard Scheinblum** was recently transferred from the Enfield Superior Court to the Meriden Judicial District and G.A. 7 Courthouse. Prior to being sworn in as a judge in 1990, Howard received his law degree from Boston Univ. and worked in Hartford as a defense lawyer for 26 years. At that point he told his wife he was ready for a change. "I'm going to become a judge or move to Florida and sell shoes!" For 16 years, Howard has loved being a judge. ✷ **Liza Fischer** reports, "After overcoming a few health issues including ankle and knee surgery, I am back to an active life including tennis. With my husband retired we are doing all the usual wonderful things —visiting family, enjoying grandchildren, and travel. We're planning to take a walking trip to Costa Rica this winter. We especially enjoy our one-room log cabin on Lake Superior where I spend hours walking the shore and collecting rocks. My home is full of rocks. Anyone else have this addiction? As you may know by now, I am your social chair for our 45th reunion in June. Sure hope you have it on your calendars for June 1–3!"

—Class Secretaries: *Liza Dunphy Fischer (bfisch@msu.edu), 11630 Center Rd., Bath, MI 48808; and Judy Bosworth Roësset (jbozroesset@aol.com), 8809 Mariscal Canyon Dr., Austin, TX 78759.*

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In breaking news from Utah, well-loved professor **Dave Hanscom** has retired after 24 years at the School of Computing at the Univ. of Utah. In addition to teaching undergraduate courses, Dave served as director of undergraduate studies, overseeing admissions and counseling for all undergraduate computer science and computer engineering students. He was active in outreach programs targeted at attracting high school math and science students to computer science. The university is establishing a scholarship fund in his name to carry on his legacy, which includes a tribute from his colleagues (and surely his Midd classmates) to his endurance and eternal good nature. As professor emeritus, Dave will maintain his ties to the university, while having more time to enjoy hiking, mountain biking, and, of course, cross-country skiing with wife **Mary Leslie Hanscom** and sons Brett '92 and Greg '95 and their families. They can be reached at hanscom @cs.utah.edu. ✷ In Massachusetts, **William Delahunt** was reelected to another term in the U.S. House of Representatives from the 10th Congressional District. He is a 10-year veteran of the House. Congratulations, Bill! ✷ A class secretary comes out of hibernation? **Jan Brevoort Allen** (now also known as Jan Allen-Spencer since marrying Jeff Spencer in February 2000) may be one of the few who has not yet retired. After three years teaching English in a NYC high school (a chance to experience a dysfunctional bureaucracy firsthand), she has joined the much-smaller Suffolk Community Council as project director working with countywide programs to help persons with mental illness obtain and retain housing. She notes that it feels great to be back in the nonprofit arena. Her sons are moving up in the world—after leaving Boulder, Jonathan lives at 9,300 feet in Silverton, Colo., using that as a base for skiing and rock climbing worldwide. Older brother Thomas and wife Leslie, both attorneys, recently relocated from SFO to London and are working at Marsh McClennan, within walking distance of the Tower of London on the Thames. Last summer, with the New York Choral Society, Jan traveled to China to sing with the Shanghai Opera and Conservatory choruses. If you are coming to NYC, check for her concert schedule at Carnegie Hall. She also has a guest room!

—Class Secretaries: *Janet Brevoort Allen-Spencer (jallen@suffolkcommunitycouncil.org), 2 Arizona Pl., Huntington Station, NY 11746; and Christopher J. White (crnbrycst@aol.com), 347 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416.*

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Secretary Vecchiolla reports: Some of us have a lifelong passion. **Dean Montgomery**'s passion has been contract bridge—in fact when I first met him in September 1960, one of the first questions he asked was "Do you play bridge?" At Middlebury he was often Bill Castor's '51 bridge partner. In a recent weekend edition of the *Greenwich Time*, he was featured as one of Connecticut's best bridge players and this fall he taught an intermediate bridge class as part of the Greenwich Adult Education program. Dean is still practicing law in Greenwich with Bentley Mosher Babson & Lambert. ✷ Joseph and **Jean Blanchette St. Clair**, our class agent, and I attended the 30th Alumni Leadership Conference at the Bread Loaf campus in September. At the Class Secretary Workshop, Lucy Paine Kezar '59 shared with us how to set up a class Web site. The Class of '64 can have one if there is enough interest. The College will help set it up. Check out the '59 Web site at www.middlebury.edu. Just click on Alumni and then Class Web Pages. ✷ Especially interesting at ALC was the Student-Faculty Collaboration presentation that again demonstrated how Middlebury is on the academic "cutting edge." ✷ Finally, next summer our class will be at the halfway mark to our 45th reunion. Some class members expressed interest in a class picnic or get-together somewhere in the New York area. Let Marian or me know if you are interested in attending one. ✷ **Keith Van Winkle**, who for many years after college competed in gymnastics and opened the Upper Valley School of Gymnastics in Norwich, Vt., decided in the early '90s to switch to diving for less wear and tear on his body. Unfortunately he suffered a bad shoulder injury

during a dive, which sidelined him for a while, but didn't slow him down. Once he had recovered, Keith began participating once again in U.S. and World Masters meets including the FINA Masters World Aquatic Championships last summer in Palo Alto, Calif. He loves it. "I get to flip and twist, like I did in gymnastics." Daughter Shannah '95 understands how he feels. She was on the swim team and dove for Middlebury.

—Class Secretary: *Marian Demas Baade (mcbaade@aol.com), 4 Red Rock Rd., New City, NY 10956; and John Vecchiolla (vecchiolla@juno.com), 193 Byram Rd., Greenwich, CT 06830.*

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Jane Isaacs Toussaint is found at last! Many of you inquired about her at the 40th and that inspired her to write. She and Jim Fenn married in August 2003. Jane has retired so they are able to divide time between Tucson, Ariz., and Boston, Mass. She and Jim have immersed themselves in taking classes and being politically active. They also manage to get back to France each year. Daughter Karine is working on a Ph.D. dissertation, which involves interviewing women over 40 who have lost a parent and have subsequently volunteered at Hospice. Son Paul is coaching hockey. Jane is enthusiastically happy with life! ✳ **Posie Merritt Taylor** checked in with the news that she is a "Grammy." Granddaughter Kate lives near Posie and Bill so they see a lot of Kate and her mother Jenny Randolph Merritt '93. They live in White River Junction, Vt., and travel to visit Bill's sons in California and Arizona. Posie is semiretired from the Aloha Foundation but still serves on the American Camp Association National Board, so she hasn't hit the front porch rocker just yet. ✳ Our two Class of '65 reunion fund scholarship recipients have checked in with us; they are grateful for our assistance and are giving back to Middlebury as much as they are learning. They are remarkable young men headed for very bright futures. ✳ **Pete Branch** has taken over as class agent for annual giving and he is lining up volunteers to help contact classmates. He takes over from **Fred Stetson**, who is passing quite a torch to Pete. Let's support Pete's effort as we have supported Fred all these years.

—Class Secretaries: *R.W. "T" Tall Jr. (ahmic@shoreham.net), 204 Clark Rd., Cornwall, VT 05753; and Polly Moore Walters (Mrs. Kenneth) (polly@frii.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521.*

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We were pleased to receive notes from people unable to make reunion last June. ✳ **Joan Lardner Paul**, director of leadership at Moravian College in Pennsylvania, wrote to say that she and husband David had two professional conflicts with reunion: "**Judy Nothnagle Reynolds** and I had hoped to enjoy this special reunion together until I realized that my biggest Steinway Piano fund-raiser was Friday evening, June 2. Then I thought we'd try to scramble north early Saturday morning for some festivities until I found out that David's Merrill Lynch trip was to sail on the *Queen Mary 2* from New York Sunday afternoon." ✳ **Martha Synerholm McSherry**'s horse got sick, so she missed the dinner Saturday night at reunion. **Carol Gillen June** writes that Martha "has a pretty major horse farm with a full riding arena. She also raises her own beef cattle, and we had yummy hamburgers (homegrown) at her summer house on Lake Champlain." ✳ **Kay Patterson Rodriguez Sider** reports that **Kathy Baker Worden** and husband Doug '68 visited her in Seattle while attending granddaughter Kate's first birthday party. ✳ **George Walker**, who retired from EPA last summer, sends his best regards to all. He's dealing with a new (2003) shoulder and a newer (2006) hip and may have to limit his sports to golf and doubles tennis. (Pretty good, George—more than some of us can do with our original parts!) He's also been taking art courses for the last 10 years and may well be displaying his paintings locally now, so if you get to Severna Park, Md., look him up! ✳ After an earlier career in real estate, **Shirley Frobes** is now working in editing. ✳ **John** and **Sue Glazier Swartz** had a busy summer. After a new county jail was built around the 120-year-old one, John trained the new officer recruits to man the much larger facility. John intends to retire this July after 32 years with the sheriff's office, so he was happy to get the chance to work in the new building before he left. He may continue working as a part-time contract employee if there is a need. Sue keeps occupied with volunteering for the Leverett (Mass.) senior lunch program and Franklin County Nutrition Council. She also takes seniors to medical appointments and shopping when they need a driver. Local volunteering is a wonderful way to get to know her neighbors. After doing a dozen cruises, Sue and John continue to enjoy their favorite vacation getaways, occasionally dodging hurricanes in the Caribbean while making new friends from all over the world. They live on 15 acres in rural Leverett where they enjoy seeing the varied wildlife drop by, including ducks, herons, otters, wild turkeys, and deer. A neighbor sheep farmer grazes his 50 ewes and their lambs on their pastures to keep them trimmed down. Sue was sad to learn her Middlebury biology professor, adviser, and friend, Toby Gaunt, passed away last March 30. ✳ **George Voland** retired from his "day job" in 1999, after 33 years of teaching English, 25 of those years at South Burlington (Vt.) High School. He then worked for five years as a marketing writer at the Physician's Computer Company. During that time wife Anne retired from teaching so that she and George could start a bed and breakfast, the Elliot House B&B (elliothouse.com) in Shelburne, Vt. In 2004, George retired from PCC to pursue his "night job": his jazz career. "I figured, 'If not now, when?'" The combination of co-innkeeping at a successful B&B, college teaching, tutoring, giving music lessons, playing gigs, directing jazz groups, and freelance writing "keeps me alive, well, and always learning." ✳ **Nancy Cushman** writes that she's retired from Emma Willard School and that she and her husband, married for 24 years now, are living in Albuquerque, N.M. "I am active in the Unitarian Church, serving on the board and heading their grounds committee. The latter has been especially fulfilling as I live in an apartment and miss my garden. I have had much to learn about xeric gardening, preserving water, and using native plants. I am the proud grandmother of three small boys living in Houston, Texas, and the step-grandmother to a teenage girl who lives in California. When I'm not doing church duty, I read, explore the Native American and Hispanic cultures of New Mexico, and marvel that I have found myself in such a beautiful, spiritual place." ✳ We were delighted to hear from **Bill Clarke** for the first time in many years! "After leaving Middlebury, I earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. in economics from Rutgers Univ. I taught at Rutgers for a couple years and then got a job teaching at Bentley College where I have been for the past 35 years. Bentley is a very different place from Middlebury. Both are highly respected private colleges, but Bentley specializes in business disciplines. I have had a great career at Bentley and have served as chair of the economics department for the past 12 years. I have a large department (21 full-time and approximately 10 part-time faculty) and we have both an undergraduate and graduate program, so I am busy! I married when I was in graduate school. My ex-wife had a young son when we were married, whom I adopted, and later we had a son of our own. We were divorced when my youngest son was eight and I was awarded custody of our children. My ex-wife left the area soon after our divorce and had very little contact with my boys, so I was truly a single parent for many years. Being a single parent and working full-time was never easy, but I consider myself very fortunate—most divorced fathers aren't so lucky." ✳ **Lee Hall Delfausse** writes: "My news is that although I am still teaching American literature at a private school in Concord, N.H., I manage to keep up my tennis game. My daughter, Sarah, and I just won a gold ball at the National Mother/Daughter Grass Court Championships at the Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, R.I." ✳ **Steve Perry**, head of the morphology and systematics research group at the Institute of Zoology in Bonn, Germany, wrote to offer help with our class Web page. Anybody else interested in getting one going?

—*Class Secretaries: Dianne Watson Carter (cartermags@aol.com), P.O. Box 259, Harvard, MA 01451; Francine Clark Page (page@pshift.com), 19 Brigham Hill Ln., Essex Junction, VT 05452; and Cathy Zawistoski Sampson (breadworks36@msn.com), 36 William Fairfield Dr., Wenham, MA 01984.*

67 REUNION CLASS

Nineteen Women of '67 nearly skidded by but did manage to blow into Bread Loaf on Homecoming Weekend, in the midst of the first snowstorm of the season. Colorful leaves were still glistening through the rain, sleet, and frozen snow. But all was warmth and smiles and laughter 'round the blazing log fire in Earthworm Manor. We had several first-timers: **Carol Conklin Wheelock**, **Lee Powers Smith**, **Margaret Clark Jackson**, and **Karen Unsworth**; some from especially far away: **Robin Flint Ballenger** from Tulsa (and Lee from Louisville); some who changed plane tickets and left other conferences to join us: **Margot Childs Cheel** and **Helen Martin Whyte**; as well as many who try to come every year: **Carol Collin Little**, **Marion Boultbee**, **Elaine Dunphy Foster**, **Kathie Towle Hession**, **Joanne Hall Johnston**, **Jervis Lockwood Anderson**, **Freddy Mahlmann**, **Sue Rugg Parmenter**, **Judy Van Nostrand Sturgis**, **Livvy Barbour Tarleton**, **Cathy Clement**, and **Susie Davis Patterson**. Our Saturday was packed with a hike through the Otter Creek Gorge, a visit to the College Center for the Arts Museum, a shopping spree in downtown Middlebury, an insight into our "personal colors" (provided by Carol Wheelock), and much sharing of good food, and the affirmations of interest and friendship in and among each other. Sunday was particularly special; we hiked on Bread Loaf trails to the Frost Cabin where we met **Gary Margolis**, our guide through Frost's little world there and our mentor in reflecting on our own connections and experiences with Robert Frost and his poetry, especially as entering first-year students. Afterward, most of us walked the Frost Wayside trails, stopping to read aloud the Frost poems staked along the route. In some ways, it felt like we had come full circle from 1963, but even better to be where and who we are

today—what Poet Gary called "the palpable wisdom in women's lives, lived." The sustaining spirit of this group is strong, and we look forward to including others as their lives permit.
—Class Secretaries: *Susan Davis Patterson (sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu), 67 Robinson Pkwy., Burlington, VT 05401; and Alex Taylor (alex_taylor@fortunemail.com), 325 W. 86th St., #8B, New York, NY 10024.*

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Dr. **Sharon Smith** says she is still doing neuropsychological assessments of people age six through elderly, most on Medicaid. "Welfare for the ultrarich has resulted in desperate straits for the impoverished people I see. I wish I could walk selected nonpoor people through the everyday lives of the poor. Would their hearts soften, or are they immune?" ✷ Susan and **Ben Gregg** were pleased to have daughter Sara '97 marry Benjamin Hayes on July 22 in Stowe, Vt. Numerous Middlebury alums were in attendance, including **Sam Levin** (a friend of Ben's since 4th grade!), as well as some Middlebury faculty and mentors of Sara's, Travis Jacobs and Paul Monod and Jan Albers. ✷ Ben Gregg was happy to see **Shari Galligan Johnson**, **Barbara Barrett Bloom**, and **Linda Mason-Smith** at the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in mid-September. Linda's sister, **Kathy Mason Lindsey**, was also at Bread Loaf briefly over the weekend, leading a workshop in alumni interviewing. Kathy is in the College's Admissions Office, and Linda is in the College Development Office (for about the past three years). We should all be proud of our two classmates—the gals we knew as the Mason Twins are now essential employees of the College on the Hill. ✷ While at ALC, your classmates were also happy to meet Eric Ambrette '04, son of classmate **Conrad Ambrette**; Eric had just joined the staff of the College as the young alumni officer in the College Advancement Office. ✷ Shari Johnson reports that she is really looking forward to co-chairing our 50th reunion in 12 years! But between now and then, we are all looking forward to our 40th reunion, coming up in 2008! Shari also has suggested that one way to harvest more class notes information is to ask classmates to share how they spent their 60th birthday. Husband Bill '69 threw Shari a surprise party during the summer, and Ben Gregg's wife had a surprise party for him in mid-March. Anyone else have anything special happen on their 60th? In addition, Shari tells us that she and Bill have recently bought a house in Cornwall, Vt.! ✷ Two more birthday stories: **Barbara Ensminger Stoebenau** saw the gorgeous new home of **Betty Austin Henderson** in Kerrville, Texas, this past fall when she and Hank were at the airport there for an airplane factory homecoming. Betty says for her 60th birthday she went to Peru with husband Don and five friends. They spent a week in the Amazon and another week in Cuzco and Machu Picchu. Barbara spent her 60th birthday on the Middlebury Alumni College trip to Monterey Bay and Aquarium and had a great time. ✷ **Dan Curry** writes, "After 18 years overseeing visual effects for the various incarnations of *Star Trek* (resulting in seven Emmys), I have been freelancing in Hollywood and developing independent feature projects with my son, Devin, who writes and co-produces with me. I have just been elected Governor of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Visual Effects Peer Group, a great honor and a great responsibility. I have continued with fine arts and you can see some of my personal work at dancurrygallery.com. **Jim Trombetta** is also here in L.A. and is a screenwriter." Ben Gregg adds that Dan was selected by his peers, a group of very tech-savvy and talented people, who obviously understand Dan's excellence.
—Class Secretaries: *Bentley Gregg (gregg.bentley@epamail.epa.gov), 418 East St. NE, Vienna, VA 22180; and Barbara Ensminger Stoebenau (hstoebs@aol.com), 6 Timber Fare, Spring House, PA 19477.*

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Work was done this fall on two trails at the College Snow Bowl, the Allen and the Ross. The widening and regrading of the slopes was implemented to increase the safety of skiing and racing on them, and should also help to cut down on snowmaking needed to keep them covered. Three alums helped raise money for the project: **Charlie Brush**, Paul Reed '70, and Buff McLaughry '72. All three were on the College ski team when at Midd and two, Charlie and Paul, have children on the team now. ✷ **Candace Cummings** is very busy these days as general counsel for VF Corp. VF, owner of such brands as Lee, Wrangler, Rustler, The North Face, and JanSport, has been on a buying binge, acquiring Reef, Nautica, and Vans. Candy joined VF after a long, successful career at Dechert Price and Rhoads in Philadelphia, and she has gone from being an office of one to now overseeing 14 lawyers. She says they don't often have to deal with major litigation; their biggest legal challenge is intellectual property as their brands are the essence of their business.
—Class Secretaries: *Anne Harris Onion (onions@metrocast.net), P.O. Box 207, Gilmanton, NH 03237; and Peter Reynolds (preyn@wcvt.com), 126 Potash Bay Dr., Addison, VT 05419.*

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Dave Desrochers reports he works summers at Dartmouth Radiology as vacation relief. He ran into **Mark Yeager** who has been an anesthesiologist there his whole career. Dave recognized Mark instantly because Mark hasn't changed at all since fifth floor of Hepburn freshman year. Dave and wife Elsa (Parrington) '71 had dinner this summer with **Chris** and Linda Manning '72 **Morris**, and Greg and Jane Stallard Shubin '72 (who live in Seattle) at the Morris home in New Hampshire. Chris is semiretired as a management consultant and was elected treasurer of the town of Grantham, N.H. Linda is working on a NASA Family Science Program. Dave was supposed to have dinner with **Jim Hand**, but Jim lost the letter in the heap on his desk. Next year, Jim. In Colorado, Dave sometimes skis with **Beth Prasse Seeley**. He said Beth is a very strong all-mountain skier. ✷ Beth Seeley reports: "I'm alive and well and enjoying a great life. Husband Rich Seeley and I live six months of the year on the beach in Gloucester, Mass., and the other six (ski season, of course!) in the mountains of Summit County, Colo. I have retired from my high-tech career (with IBM and Sun Microsystems) and am now consulting in a whole new area—helping people live a healthy life by improving their nutrition. If you get out to the Colorado mountains, look us up in Silverthorne. I know where to find great powder stashes at Vail, Copper Mountain, and Breckenridge!" ✷ **Harry** and Lynn Francis '71 **Zinn** are on sabbatical in Burlington, Vt., for the year. ✷ **Judith Lelchook**'s brother was killed recently in a rocket attack in Israel while on his farm, four kilometers from the border. Judith went to the funeral in Israel. The class extends its sympathy to Judith. ✷ **Tom DeRogatis** reports that life is busy. He and wife Teresa have a business that requires travel to Europe and NYC several times a year. Their two daughters both attend Chadwick School in Palos Verdes, Calif., where they see **John Fiske**, who is the director of the Chadwick Middle School. Tom also speaks fairly regularly with **Jan Rovelli**, "who seems to be enjoying life in New York as an empty-nester." ✷ This past summer, **Hersey** (Pete) **Egginton** became the new director of development for major and planned gifts at Purchase College, SUNY. He came to Purchase from Columbia Univ., NYC, where he was the director of development at the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation. Previously he had also worked in development at the Culinary Institute of America and Baruch College, and was the assistant director of the Columbia College Fund. Pete holds an MBA in marketing and finance and also an M.A. in higher-education administration from Columbia Univ., and an M.A. in journalism from Syracuse Univ. ✷ Poet **Sue Ellen Thompson** read from her fourth book of poetry this past summer at Other Tiger in Westerly, R.I. Six of the poems from *The Golden Hour* won the 2004 Pablo Neruda Prize, one was selected by Billy Collins for "Best American Poetry 2006," and two have been read by Garrison Keillor on NPR. ✷ In Maine, **Elizabeth House Sky-McIlvain** teaches an experimental course in 21st-century literacy to eighth graders in laptop classrooms at Freeport Middle School, and provides teachers with training and support for integrating technology into the curriculum through Least Tern, a company she runs with husband and fellow educator John. Betsy was a guest columnist in *Education World*, with a column offering a simple rubric for administrators, teachers, and parents to use when evaluating their school's readiness for one-to-one computing. ✷ Your secretaries, Kate and Dave, are working to increase participation in the class notes. Please send in your information!
—Class Secretaries: *Dr. David Desrochers (daveandelsa@earthlink.net), 599 Blackbeards View, Bath, NC 27808; and Kate Mead (markat@sbceo.org).*

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Your new secretaries report that our reunion last June was such a wonderful time—in part because it was such a joy to reconnect with old friends and in part because it felt so natural to connect with people that we didn't know as well. We laughed, reminisced, and shared our current lives and thoughts with classmates who have taken diverse pathways in their lives. A number of our classmates took a Saturday morning walk to the Middlebury Farmers' Market, where they had a surprise visit with **Francie Marbury**, who was selling goat cheese for Hannah Sessions, daughter of Bill '69 and **Abi Procter Sessions**! Francie is principal of the Marlborough (Vt.) Elementary School, having moved back to Vermont from Colorado via Costa Rica. ✷ With the Château and Allen as headquarters, the only reminder of our advancing age was the nearby Class of 2001, who kept us awake until all hours partying like we used to. The College had a full schedule of events and the Class of '71 was well represented. Our own **Julia Alvarez** completely filled Warner Hemicycle, twice, reading from her new novel *Saving the World*. Saturday night **Charlie Rockwell** and one of his bands, Crisis, provided music for dancing in McCullough. And, in a burst of reckless enthusiasm, **Carolyn Ungberg Olivier**, **Robby Waters**, and **Barbara Laudenslager Mosley** volunteered to assume responsibility for the gathering of class notes. We thank **Sue Thornton** for her many years of excellent service to our class, and ask your patience as

we take over this role. ✷ Speaking of Julia Alvarez, last summer she was honored by NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg as part of a celebration of the rich cultural contributions of the Dominican community in NYC. She was presented with a crystal apple in recognition of her exemplary achievement in literature. Julia's response: "Nearly 50 years ago I was a small girl coming to this great big city. Thinking back on those early years—struggling to learn English and adapting to a new life and culture—I never could have imagined the storyline that would bring me here this evening." ✷ Also honored last summer was **Jim Keyes**, president of Citizen's Bank in Burlington, Vt. Jim was selected as the 2006 winner of the SBA Financial Services Champion of the Year. A banker for 27 years, Jim says one of the reasons he loves banking is it gives him the chance to help people and give them opportunities to be successful. He is committed to community reinvestment. ✷ **Nan Krumm Sichler** remains very involved with church, singing, garden club, and sitting on the board of a chamber music organization that brings world-renowned artists to Connecticut. She and husband Joe have taken to traveling in a big way since he accepted an early retirement package. They recently visited Italy, Nova Scotia, and Quebec City. In May, they head to a wedding in Germany; in summer to Barcelona and the Greek Isles. Daughter Kirsten '02 is an account manager for European fashion for *Esquire* magazine in NYC. ✷ **Marshall Forstein** is directing a psychiatric residency training program and teaching medical students at Harvard Medical School in Cambridge, Mass. "After teaching high school at Middlebury Union for five years, I have ended up teaching again, but in a medical graduate program in a public sector community-based health care system, the Cambridge Health Alliance. My husband of 26 years (Khari) and I live in the same house in Boston we moved into in 1983. Our younger son is living with us as he attends college and our older son is moving back to New York to begin a new venture. Khari is a clinical psychologist, teaching graduate students. We have both been very involved for 25 years in the clinical care of people with HIV/AIDS. I feel blessed and fortunate to have so much in my life." ✷ **Hector Griswold**, recruited by **Ann Einsiedler Crumb** to be a class agent in 2000, has maintained his role since then and works hard to keep us all in touch and financially involved! Happily married and living in Hopewell, N.J., he commutes almost two hours each way to his very successful commercial bakery on the Jersey Shore. Recently, he traveled to Tibet to enlighten himself about Buddhism. He has also visited Antarctica, the Galápagos Islands, and other "environmentally sensitive areas of the planet." Hector and Barb have two children: Kelsey, a freshman at Boston College, and Matt, a Midd Kid, class of '08. ✷ **Susan Lebel Young** reports that her daughter became engaged and her son graduated from culinary school on the same day. And she also had a book published! *Lessons from a Golfer: A Daughter's Story of Opening the Heart* honors her father: "Writing was humbling and joyful as is this whole process now of events and signings." She continues to practice as a psychotherapist, and to teach yoga and meditation. ✷ **Paula** (Stick) **Morgan** writes about coming to Midd in 1967: "As I packed my steamer trunk and headed from England to Midd, I had my headlights shining on 'interpreter for the UN.' Languages had always been my vocation. I changed majors, only to be intercepted by a world that had absolutely no use for an English lit major who couldn't even type!" Thirty-five years later, she runs her own business, Anything Goes: "You name it; I'll do it." She paints, cleans, wallpapers, bartends, caters, cares for gardens—the list goes on. "Not many folks here are going to ask me about Shelley's poetry, so my Midd education ain't being put to work, but so far, it's a go." ✷ With an M.A. from Columbia, specializing in Asian art history, **Cyndy Bronson** is the curator of Kykuit, the Rockefeller family home in Pocantico Hills, N.Y. She reports that "the past few years have been rewarding professionally, but difficult personally, as we lost Jon suddenly and much too early five years ago. Within the past seven months, I've lost both parents, one expected, and one not." Daughter Sara graduated from Georgetown in 2004, finished a certificate in landscape design from GW, and plans to apply to master's programs at Kew, Giverny, or Villa la Pietra in Florence. ✷ In her 29th year as an elementary school guidance counselor in Brandon, Vt., **Laurie Miner Cox** muses about retirement. She has served on the select board for 20 years and also sings in a women's barbershop chorus. Husband Mac is a special educator at the high school in Middlebury. Son Thad (23) completed his master's in chemical engineering; son Alex (18) is a sophomore at Drew Univ. ✷ **Gay Mann Folland** played a lot of golf last summer, including a mixed tournament in pouring rain that reminded her of our 35th reunion! Each summer, she volunteers as a "shepherd" in the local junior golf clinic because she loves to watch the kids grow and improve, year after year. A kayaker, she can often be found "out on the lake or in marshy areas, binoculars at the ready, looking for wildlife and birds." Her ski conditioning begins early as she whips herself into reasonable shape for the ski-racing season. "If anybody's visiting the North Conway/Mt. Washington area and wants to play at one sport or another, give me a holler." ✷ A summer exhibition featuring the work of **Peik Larsen** took place in Provincetown, Mass. He showed "Landscape: Fleeting Images," the title of his recently released book. ✷ United Counseling Service in southwestern Vermont has appointed **Joanna Mintzer** to its board of directors. Joanna is a lecturer and educator in the interdisciplinary fields of psychology, theology, and the arts. She lives in Dorset, Vt. ✷ Retired from the pastoral ministry in 2000, **Beth Congdon-Martin** found her way back to seminary as an adjunct faculty member in the Christian ministry department of Palmer Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pa. In 2004, she became a director of supervised ministries where she oversees pastoral and clinical internships in a group that she describes as "international, multicultural, and diverse, in all ways." She loves her work there, but says that retirement is still looking good!

—Barbara Laudenslager Mosley (barbaramosley@optonline.net); Carolyn Ungberg Olivier (colivier@sover.net); and Robert Waters (rwaters@nando.com).

72 REUNION CLASS

Congratulations to **Jim Douglas** on his reelection as governor of Vermont! ✷ Don't forget our reunion coming up June 1–3! We hope to see as many classmates as possible there!

—Class Secretaries: *Jennifer Hamlin Church (jhchurch@sienahts.edu); and Judy Wingham (jwingham@bosleyrealestate.com).*

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Janet Frey DeVito writes: "I went to Alumni College at Bread Loaf with husband Skip '72. **Walter Newman** and **Foster Osborne** were also at AC. **Franci Vinal Farnsworth** (who works at the College) came up to eat lunch with us all and catch up on news. When Skip and I were on campus Saturday to see the new library (gorgeous, by the way), who should pull up in his car but **Keith Oberg**, who was dropping off his son for MOO (Middlebury Outdoor Orientation) as a first-year student. Although he had no time for chatting at that moment, Keith and his wife drove up to Bread Loaf a bit later and were able to spend a few minutes with us before they had to zoom off to their next destination. We also saw **Mike Schoenfeld** who dropped by while Keith was there. So there were six of us classmates up at Bread Loaf—practically a mini-reunion." ✷ **Deborah Schneider Greenhut** has a new position—on September 27, she officially became associate dean of humanities and social sciences at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City. "It's a thrill to be joining a growing school and to have a chance to watch this part of the city blossom around us." ✷ **Dan Gillmor** is encouraging people to write their own news on citizen media Web sites. As the founder and director of the Center for Citizen Media, Dan has written the primer on the subject, *We the Media: Grassroots Journalism by the People, for the People*. He believes that by encouraging readers to participate in the journalistic process, traditional media will be reinvigorated and community involvement and activism will be spurred. Dan is a veteran newspaper reporter with 25 years of experience. ✷ This past October, *The New York Times Magazine* did a feature on **Wendy Mogel** and her 2001 book, *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee: Using Jewish Teachings to Raise Self-Reliant Children*. With an original print run of 5,000 and little publicity, the book has become a popular parenting tool that has sold about 120,000 copies at a pace of more than 20,000 a year. Not confined to Jewish settings, the book is used all over the country as a text for classes and discussion groups. Wendy gives about a speech a month and has been a keynote speaker at the National Association of Independent Schools, the American Camp Association, and the National Association of Episcopal Schools. Her second book, *The Blessing of a B Minus*, will be published by Scribner in 2008 and is about everyday ethics for parents of teenagers. Wendy and husband Michael Tolkin '74 live in Hollywood. ✷ U.S. House Representative **Frank Pallone** was reelected with 67 percent of the vote from the 6th District of New Jersey. Congratulations, Frank! ✷ **Terry McGuirk** serves as chairman and president of the Atlanta Braves where he has executive oversight of player personnel, team operations, and Turner Field. His involvement with the Braves dates from Ted Turner's 1976 purchase of the team. ✷ The Vermont Symphony Orchestra's "Made in Vermont Festival" this fall included a world premiere commission, *Green Mountain Variations*, by **Peter Hamlin**. This piece plays with a variation on Vermont folk themes. Peter is an active composer who has written works for orchestra, band, choir, chamber ensembles, solo instruments, solo voice, music theater, and electronic media.

—Class Secretary: *Deborah Schneider Greenhut (writerDSG@comcast.net).*

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Jim and Nancy Burns '75 **Rugen** were privileged to attend the September 22 performance of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra at Middlebury's Center for the Arts. Featured on the program was *Green Mountain Variations*, a delightful piece by Peter Hamlin '73, commissioned by the VSO and incor-

porating a quotation from Claudio Monteverdi (Claude Vermont, as Peter's former roommate John McDonald '73 calls him), and variations on a Vermont fiddle tune, "Petronella." In characteristic fashion, Peter also weaves in the song of Vermont's state bird, the hermit thrush; and one of the variations is pure Klezmer! Nancy and Jim were delighted to spend some time with Peter and wife Chris Robbins '73 after the concert and to chat with Profs. Emory Fanning and George Todd, and Diana Egbers Fanning '71. It's wonderful that Peter is now chairman of the music department at Middlebury and that he continues George and Emory's tradition of inspiring young musicians. ✷ For more than two decades, **Nick Bogert** has been reporting the ins and outs of South Florida politics for WTVJ in Miami. Nick's first-person account of civil unrest in 1982 won "TV Story of the Year" honors from both AP and UPI wire services. In 1989, he won an Emmy for work he did on a public-service campaign focusing on the environment. Other stories he has covered include the developments in the Elian Gonzalez custody battle, and the fallout from the ballot battles in Florida in 2000. ✷ **Bob Lefsetz** lives in Los Angeles and blogs about all things musical at http://www.lefsetz.com/wordpress. An entry from August 2006 recounts a Steely Dan concert in Denver, which he enjoyed with old friend (and long-lost classmate) **John Hughes**. ✷ **Karen Jacobson** writes that she and husband Tom Molholm visited last August with **Katie Kiley** and husband Don Schoch (like Katie, also a doctor) and their family in So. Dartmouth, Mass. Karen and Tom were picking up daughter Claire, who had spent a week boating and hanging out with Katie's daughter, Gwen. Claire and Gwen started a great friendship at our 25th reunion, which has given Karen and Katie the opportunity to stay in close touch over the past seven years. Karen says, "Gwen goes to prep school St. Paul's in Concord, N.H. We are much more urban here in downtown NYC. Claire takes the subway to pretty gritty Bard High School Early College!" ✷ Last August marked the publication of **Andrew Gross**'s sixth novel in collaboration with James Patterson, *Judge and Jury,* which debuted at number one. Andy has signed a three-book deal with William Morrow/HarperCollins and his first solo novel, *The Blue Zone*, a thriller in the Patterson mold, will be published next April. Regarding family, Andy reports that wife Lynn has been teaching yoga around Westchester, N.Y., for 15 years. Daughter Kristen is working for a clothing manufacturer in NYC; son Matt is a senior at George Washington and spent a junior semester in Australia; and son Nick (17) is a top squash player at St. Luke's, in Connecticut. ✷ While we're on the subject of novels, *The Return of the Player,* **Michael Tolkin**'s fourth novel, was recently published by Grove Books. (Many of us are familiar with the movie adaptation of one of his previous novels, *The Player*, directed by the late Robert Altman.) Also among Michael's screen credits is *Changing Lanes*. He directed an adaptation of a Robert Heinlein story, *Jerry Was a Man*, for an episode of a limited series called "Masters of Science Fiction," slated to air this season on ABC and starring Anne Heche and Malcolm MacDowell. His older daughter is a sophomore at Haverford and his younger daughter is a sophomore in high school. Michael adds that he and wife Wendy Mogel '73 "have had lunch with President Liebowitz in Los Angeles and are not surprised that the college is thriving. The last time I was in Middlebury was, sadly, for Horace Beck's funeral. I'm still close with Jane '63 and his family and visit them in New Hampshire in the summer. Steve Miller '73 remains our oldest friend, godfather to the girls."

—Class Secretaries: *Greg Dennis (gregdennis@verizon.net); and Barry Schultz King (kinglet@together.net).*

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Chris Graff, former chief correspondent for the Associated Press, was recently named VP of communications for National Life Group, which includes National Life Insurance of Montpelier, Vt. The job moves him from the journalism side of communications to the public relations side. With his new responsibilities, Chris decided to step down as the popular host of Vermont This Week, the reporters' roundtable panel show aired on Vermont Public Television. He did take time in September to return to campus to moderate a debate on foreign affairs among the candidates for the Vermont seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Chris also published a book this past fall titled *Dateline Vermont: Covering and uncovering the newsworthy stories that shaped a state—and influenced a nation.* ✷ At Winter Carnival 2006, **Debbie Shadd** gathered together a group of classmates and had a mini-reunion. They watched ski racing at the Snow Bowl, cheered the men's hockey team as they beat Wesleyan in the NESCAC quarterfinal game, walked the Robert Frost poetry trail, and had a group dinner at Fire and Ice. **Jim Levins** and **Michael Cushman** missed the trip due to a snowstorm and illness, respectively, but the following made it: **Peter Kunhardt**, **Diana Stoianovich Revson**, **Betsy Mitchell Etchells**, **Tony MacDonald**, **Becca Gustafson Brown**, **Nancy Maurer**, **Wes Brooks**, **Burley Dickerson**, and **Steve Townsend**. ✷ McAfee, Inc., recently appointed **Roger King** as executive VP of Worldwide Sales. Previously, Roger was president of Software Spectrum, a division of Level 3 Communications. He has also held positions at Lotus Development Corp., Sterling Software, and IBM.

—Class Secretaries: *Cristine Cioffi (ccioffi@cswlawfirm.com); and Rick Greene (fgreene@middlebury.edu).*

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Last July, **Will Graham** took over as the new head of Midland School, a co-ed, college-prep boarding school located on a 2,860-acre working ranch in the Santa Ynez Valley in California. Previously, Will had served as the associate head of Gould Academy in Bethel, Maine, where he had been since 1984. He and wife Marguerite received the Citizenship Award from the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce for their contributions to the Bethel area schools and community. Their children, Kate and Angus, are both pursuing graduate degrees. ✷ **Holly Hoover de Montmarin** writes, "We've been living a sedentary life in Paris for 15 years which is a change from all the moving around we did during the 15 before that. I have been working at AUP (American University of Paris) for the past seven and I catch up on Middlebury via students who join AUP as visitors for the summer or a semester. Our children are now 27 (recently married), 26 (living in London), and 23 (just returned to France after five years) and have flown the coop so Alain and I are enjoying 'la vie à deux'—when he isn't traveling for HSBC." ✷ **Gary Holmes** was recently named VP of global communications and chief press officer for Nielsen Media Research and VNU's Media Measurement and Information Group. Previously he worked at the communications firm of Robinson, Lerer & Montgomery, where he had been for 17 years, the last two as a consultant to Nielsen. During his time at RLM, Gary worked on a number of communications campaigns, including Tyco, America Online, NBC, Viacom, and Bertelsmann.

—Class Secretaries: *Nancy Clark Herter (ncherter@mxschool.edu); and Gene O'Neill (otis3024@optonline.net).*

77 REUNION CLASS

Dennis Parker is the new director of the ACLU's racial justice program, concerned with the School-to-Prison pipeline, immigrants' rights, rules on English proficiency in schools, and more. With a law degree from Harvard, Dennis comes to the ACLU from the office of New York attorney general, Elliot Spitzer, where he worked on enforcing anti-discrimination laws in housing, employment, voting, public accommodations, and credit. He also worked for 14 years with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and teaches race, poverty, and constitutional law at Columbia University's School Law Institute.

—Class Secretary: *Bob Lindberg (rcl@linrip.com).*

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Carey Field Guth reports from Wilton, Conn., that she crossed the 50 barrier, but not without a big surprise party complete with several pounds of Louisiana crawfish that her husband had shipped up to Connecticut! Her kids are still giving her a hard time because the oldsters danced until one A.M. to "Brown-Eyed Girl" and other oldies (can't we relate?). Then she says what we all know: "While I definitely feel older when talking to kids in college, I wouldn't be 20 again for anything. This is a great time in life—we're old enough to have acquired some wisdom and humility and still young enough to keep up with our kids on rollerblades and skis (although my kids are definitely taking the lead on the slopes!). While my 8th grader and 4th grader keep me busy, I've managed to find time to pick up lots of freelance magazine, PR, and marketing assignments, and I'm working on a book that actually involves Middlebury and college in general! I occasionally run into other Middlebury classmates around Wilton; in my neighborhood alone there are two other Midd grads, although I'm the old-timer among them—the other two graduated in '83 and '91!" ✷ This comes from **Ed Kanze**, with apologies from the secretary who lost this in his overflowing inbox: Late-bloomer Ed reports from his beautiful, bug-infested property along the Saranac River in the Adirondacks that he and wife Debbie recently welcomed baby #2 to the household. Tasman (named for the Tasman Sea, along whose shores her parents have enjoyed many fine adventures) was born June 6 and joins big brother Ned. Late last year, Ed also won a gold medal in environmental writing at the International Regional Magazine Awards in San Antonio. He's wrapping up his first novel, working on his fifth nonfiction book, and soon will write his 1000th installment of "All Things Natural," a weekly column he writes for a Connecticut-based newspaper chain. Ed's Adirondack guiding business, the Adirondack Naturalist Company, keeps him busy and outdoors during the summer. Whew! It's a full, rich, exhausting life. For 10 months out of the year, Ed is also a stay-at-home dad, specializing in diapers, dishes, and disaster remediation. ✷ **Michael Abend** reports that a lot has happened since he last wrote, before our 25th reunion. Sadly, just after that reunion he and Kathy split up, amicably. He admits

that the experience of going through a divorce, even an amicable one, is draining. Things began looking up about a year later when he met Vicky Kahn (through jDate.com!) and after two years together they married in July. The next day they closed on a condo in Wayland, Mass. With all the commotion they delayed their honeymoon until October when they cycled along the coast of Tuscany with friends. ✷ **Diane Nastri** and children Joseph (10) and Julie (8) relocated to West Hartford, Conn., from Concord, Mass., in August 2005. Diane has been in sales with Avaya for the past three years. Diane and **Kim Wiehl** have enjoyed mini-reunions in the south of France the past two summers. ✷ Mike '77 and **Karen Divalentino McGown** live in Norwalk, Conn. Karen says that she has returned to her Middlebury roots and is now teaching middle school Spanish. Karen and Mike enjoy sailing on Long Island Sound and skiing at Sugarbush with children Justin (14) and Kali (11). ✷ **Amy Dale** reports that she is living in the Washington, D.C., area with her husband and 7-year-old son and that while celebrating her 50th birthday in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, she ran into **Helen Cooke Pyne**!
—Class Secretaries: *David Jaffray (djaffray@mchsi.com); Phyllis Wendell Mackey (phylmackey@hotmail.com), 120 Glade Path, Hampton, NH 03842; and Anne Rowell Noble (annenoblemail@aol.com).*

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William Grassie, founder and executive director of the Metanexus Institute on Religion and Science, was at Middlebury this past fall to deliver a lecture entitled "Biocultural Evolution in the 21st Century: The Evolutionary Role of Religion." ✷ In September, **Libby Marsh Elliott** was named a trustee of George Stevens Academy in Blue Hill, Maine. Two of Libby's children, Josh (16) and Sarah (14), attend GSA while her third, Sam (12), is a seventh-grader. Libby and husband Matt have an architectural practice, and design residential and community buildings. They have lived in Blue Hill since 1988. ✷ Please send news of classmate gatherings or sightings—especially milestone birthday celebrations! Don't be shy!
—Class Secretaries: *Maura Flynn (maura_flynn@msn.com); and Beth Mooney Longcope (longcopes@earthlink.net).*

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Parker McCay attorney **Michael A. Rambert** was selected to serve on the New Jersey Advisory Committee on Police Standards, established by Governor Jon S. Corzine. The purpose of the 21-member committee was to recommend whether New Jersey should terminate the 1999 consent decree that required federal monitoring of New Jersey state police to prevent the practice of racial profiling. The Advisory Committee further advised on how to ensure racial profiling would not occur or be tolerated in the future if the consent decree was terminated.
—Class Secretaries: *Anne Cowherd Kallaher (acowherd@cng-inc.com); and Susanne Rohardt Strater (scstrater@videotron.ca).*

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Secretary Nickerson reports: **Marcia Nordgren** is still in D.C. (actually Arlington, Va.), working for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and traveling overseas a great deal, especially to Africa. She hangs out with **Carolyn Bausch**, **Barbara** (B.J.) **Burns Comstock**, and **Merry Broadbent**, all of whom live nearby. Following her divorce, Marcia is trying to balance a house, yard, and five pets on top of work, but somehow it's all coming together. ✷ Carolyn is also in Arlington and has been working in the conservation area for the last 15 years, having been director of development at American Rivers and the Potomac Conservancy. Carolyn is now striking out in a slightly new direction—consulting for the Olmstead Foundation and spending more time pursuing the things she loves. She's been married to Doug for 13 years, and they have two great dogs, Josie and Jack. Doug is an avid kayaker—the two of them spend much of their time with outdoor activities. ✷ B.J. lives in McLean, Va., a few miles from Marcia. Where does she find the energy? She has raised three children, Danny (23), Peter (21), and Caity (16), and has had a very illustrious career. After practicing law, working with the Republican Party and the Justice Department (where she was chief spokeswoman), she is now with Blank and Rome, a lobby/law firm in D.C., where she works as a lobbyist. She seems to appear everywhere in D.C.—on TV, in the papers, and at "inside the beltway" events. ✷ **Leslie Evans** lives in NYC, where she's been for many years. Several years ago she started her own company for executive coaching, and she's had a lot of wonderful experiences with the many people she has coached. Leslie is a spiritual person, and it becomes evident when talking with her that her insightful personality has led to her successes in the coaching field. And, she tells me that she's into ballroom dancing—at Lincoln Center! ✷ **Jim Davis** is still involved in developing recreation centers. After successfully helping to create a center in Derby locally called IROC, Indoor Recreation of Orleans County, he gave a presentation last spring in the St. Johnsbury and Lyndon, Vt., area for a similar facility. Jim also works part-time as a business development specialist in Northeastern Vermont Development Association. He has spearheaded such projects as affordable housing, grass pellets for heating fuel, and investigations into the creation of a wooden bridge company to help towns deal with bridge repairs. ✷ In Washington state, the attorney general recently promoted **Brian Moran**, the chief criminal prosecutor from the Seattle criminal justice division, to chief deputy attorney general. As chief deputy, Brian serves as the attorney general's top legal advisor and strategist, and manages the solicitor general's office, the deputy attorneys general, division chiefs, and more than 500 other assistant attorneys general. Brian and wife Eileen McKain live in Port Orchard, Wash., with daughters Kate and Molly.
—Class Secretaries: *Elaine King Nickerson (eknick@aol.com); and Sue Dutcher Wagley (suewagley@earthlink.net).*

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REUNION CLASS

Caleb Rick reports he joined classmates **Nancy Rielle**, **Beth Stelluto Dunaier**, and **Mary Frangakis Clark** in Truro, Mass., over the Labor Day weekend to celebrate the wedding of **John Vergara** and his partner of 18 years, Michael Hayden. Friends gathered in Provincetown for a wedding eve "crazy pants" pub crawl—and group plea to the weather gods for Hurricane Ernesto's swift departure before Sunday's sunset vows on the beach. The weather cleared on cue as John and Michael descended 200 steps to join a whooping throng of loved ones on hand to witness their vows. The after-party rocked into the wee hours as all generations shook some serious collective booty! ✷ Musicians **Jay Cook** and Daniel Kasnitz played this fall at the Putney Inn as part of the Music by the Birch Grove series. The two play classic hits, drawing from a wide variety of artists and styles. Jay, a multi-instrumentalist, plays upright bass and doubles on percussion. ✷ **Ken Adams** was recently selected as the new president and CEO of the Business Council of New York State Inc. Ken was previously the president of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, a post he held since 1995. He is only the third president of the council since it was formed in 1980 and he is the first leader from downstate New York. Ken, wife Diana, and their two daughters live in Boerum Hill, Brooklyn. ✷ **Steve Kiernan** has come out with a new book. In *Last Rights: Rescuing the End of Life from the Medical System*, Steve tackles the issue of end-of-life care in America. ✷ The College announced in October the establishment of the Justice William H. Rehnquist Professorship of American History and Culture. The first holder of the Rehnquist Chair is **Jim Ralph**, a teacher and scholar of American history whose research focuses on the civil rights movement. President Liebowitz said Jim's book, *Northern Protest: Martin Luther King, Jr., Chicago, and the Civil Rights Movement*, "made an important contribution to our understanding of a critical period in the nation's history. I can think of no more fitting holder of the inaugural Rehnquist Professorship." Congratulations, Jim!
—Class Secretaries: *Wendy Behringer Nelson (gomongo@bellsouth.net); and Caleb Rick (crick@northcommon.com).*

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Shelby Siems writes, "I graduated from Emerson College's MFA program in creative writing in December 2005. On March 17, 2006, I was a panel participant for 'On Point,' a news program on WBUR, Boston's NPR station. The subject was single women looking for anonymous donors. Two days later, I was the featured single mother in a *New York Times Magazine* cover story on the same topic. It was an exciting week as six days after that I gave birth to my second son, Charlie. He joined brother Christopher (2.5). ✷ One of the new faculty members at Bosque School in Albuquerque, N.M., is **Kevin Cummins**. Kevin is a 9th- and 10th-grade English teacher. He has taught in private schools in New York, Connecticut, the Caribbean, and California. ✷ **Helen Hammond Baldwin** sent this note: "It is with deep sadness that I write to tell you of my beloved husband Bob's sudden passing. Tragically, he was killed in a plane crash on June 14 en route to one of his land projects in Virginia, Bundoran Farm. I thank God for His gift to me in Bob. He was the love of my life, my very best friend. Our time together was cut far too short, but my memories of our life together and Bob's spirit and vision live on." The class sends its deep condolences to Helen. ✷ **Karen Edlund**, former VP and treasurer at M/A-Com Inc., in Lowell, Mass., was recently named senior VP and CFO at Leggat McCall Properties, LLC, a Boston-based real estate development, investment, and project management firm. ✷ The *Rutland Herald* ran an article this past fall featuring people who left NYC after the September 11 attacks and one of those interviewed was **Bruce Chase**. Bruce watched the attacks from the roof of an office building in Brooklyn Heights, where he worked for a small advertising agency. In the economic aftershocks of the tragedy, Bruce lost his job and he and wife Heather decided it was time for some changes. They moved to Vermont and now Bruce teaches Spanish at the Compass School, a nonprofit, independent school in Westminster, Vt. He and Heather live in Bethel with children Harrison (14), Ann (12), Muriel (10), and Samantha (6).

—Class Secretaries: *Ruth Kennedy (kennedyr2@aetna.com); and Siobhan Leahy Ulrich (sulrich@westminster-school.org).*

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James C.E. Burke, partner in entitled entertainment production company, had the world premiere of his most recent movie, *Aurora Borealis*, at the 2005 Tribeca Film Festival. The movie, which stars Joshua Jackson, Donald Sutherland (P '05, Honorary '05), Juliette Lewis, and Louise Fletcher, also picked up Best Film nods from the Ft. Lauderdale International Film Festival. Set in Minneapolis, it recently showed at Edina's (Minn.) Landmark Theater and received a great review in the *Star Tribune*.

—Class Secretaries: *Kimberly Schlegel Boscow (ksboscow@msn.com); and Andrew Zehner (andrew.zehner@pfizer.com).*

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For this issue we heard from the West and the East. From out west, **Joslin Fields** has been living in the Bridger mountains just outside Bozeman, Mont., since 1991. Soon after settling in Bozeman, Joslin met and married her husband, and in 2003 they left their four horses, two fat donkeys, dog, and cat behind to fetch a little girl, Cecily, from China. It was an amazing journey and Cecily (4.5) has made the full transition from filthy Chinese city to rural Montana. She hikes, skis, and horseback rides with her parents. Joslin and her husband are learning some Mandarin and organize adoptive Chinese cultural events. Unable to find cute durable clothes for Cecily, Joslin makes and sells beautiful children's clothes all over the country as well as at her local farmers' market. Joslin also uses her creative energies to make whimsical pillows, rugs, and metal art. Check out her Web site (www.thejosline.com). ✷ **Gary Oakley** also kindly responded to our request for some information. He lives happily in Boulder, Colo., with wife **Kirsten McLish Oakley**. They have two girls, ages 11 and 14. Their eldest started high school this fall! Gary has his own photography business and not only photographs weddings but also has worked on books and other photographic art. He's photographed a few Middlebury weddings and says it's always a challenge to get himself into the photo next to the Middlebury banner while taking the picture! On his Web site (www.oakleyphotography.com) you'll see the photos are really works of art and are very beautiful (this doesn't come as any surprise to those of us who knew him). Gary, Kirsten, and their children spent a school year in San Miguel, Mexico, where he was working on a photo book. He said it was great to have the girls enrolled in a Spanish school, and now they are "way ahead of the game in Spanish." ✷ In New England, we heard from **Bart Riley**, who lives in the Boston area with wife Susie and children Camille (9) and Ian (6). In typical Bart fashion, he pointed out in his e-mail that if you "concatenate their names, you'll get a small amphibious animal." He shares that his kids "are either magic or carry a highly infectious, albeit rare, condition called joy." In recent years Bart cofounded a nanotechnology company called A123 Systems in 2001 with an MIT professor and dot-com entrepreneur. The company is doing quite well (i.e., the technology works and they have products in market) and it has kept him busy traveling to Asia where he has four factories. He's been 20 times in the last two years and, in fact, his last e-mail was sent from China! ✷ Also in New England in New Canaan, Conn., are **John** and **Mimi Harding Owen** and daughters Caroline (10) and Maggie (7). John commutes into NYC where he works in advertising for Saatchi & Saatchi while Mimi works for Nestle Waters in Greenwich in the information systems area. We saw Mimi a few times this summer up in York Harbor, Maine. (We just naturally seem to find each other with our kids down at the water.) Mimi and John head up to York Harbor frequently in the summer to spend time with Mimi's parents and siblings. Mimi recently saw **Martha Witbeck Chamberlain**, **Mary Weaver Renner**, **Sarah Buffum Prud'homme**, and **Melissa Wheeler Waud** at their high school reunion in Farmington, Conn. Mimi reports that all are well. Thanks, Mimi! ✷ Managing editor of *Rolling Stone* magazine **Will Dana** delivered a lecture at the College this fall entitled "The Myth of Fair and Balanced: A Defense of Biased Reporting." The lecture was part of Middlebury's "Meet the Press" series. Will joined *Rolling Stone* in 1996 and has primarily been a features editor contributing to the magazine's political and national affairs coverage, including John Kerry's bid for the presidency. Since his promotion to managing editor in 2005, he has been responsible for overseeing all aspects of the magazine's editorial operations. ✷ **Alexander Barnes** represented the College at Villanova Univ. this fall for the inauguration of a new president and **Toni Mauck Butterfield** did the same at the Univ. of New England. ✷ **John** (Sean) **Cahill** was honored in September in Chicago with the Patrick Finucane award for dedication to human rights in the north of Ireland. Finucane was a civil rights lawyer who was killed in the 1980s. Sean shared the award with Father Aidan Troy, pastor of Holy Cross Church in Belfast. Sean has been spending time in Ireland for the past several summers working for civil rights for all. ✷ As always, we love to hear from any and all of you Class of 1985ers! Au revoir until the next issue!

—Class Secretaries: *Ruth Lohmann Davis (rdavis@comcast.net); and Denah Lohmann Toupin (denaht@comcast.net).*

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BoardWalk Consulting, a consulting resource on nonprofit leadership and governance in the Southeast, recently named **Jeff Seavey** as a recipient of a 2006 BoardWalk Governance Fellowship at Harvard. Jeff, first VP with SunTrust Bank, currently serves as a board member for the Theatrical Outfit. Jeff was excited to work with the faculty and other nonprofit board members when he attended the Harvard program, "Governing for Nonprofit Excellence: Critical Issues for Board Leadership." ✷ At Greenwich (Conn.) High School, **Chris Winters** was appointed to be housemaster of Folsom House. Chris, who has been with the Greenwich public schools for 16 years, serves as the district's English as a Second Language and foreign language coordinator. After serving for two years in the Peace Corps in Mali, West Africa, Chris began his teaching career in 1990. Chris speaks Spanish, French, and the West African language called Bambara. He says, "I met my wife in the Peace Corps, so she and I can speak it behind the kids' backs." Chris, his wife, and two children live in Stamford. ✷ **Isabelle Hunnewell Stafford** writes, "Sorry to miss our 20th reunion. Life is good in Tamworth, N.H. Thomas is seven and Georgia is five, so I have a bit more breathing room. Except now we're getting into all the sports—soccer, baseball, what next? I would love to hear from friends (belles@ncia.net)." ✷ **Nancy Biddle Elsbree** did make it to reunion and had an excellent time. "Pretty interesting being there with my 20-month-old son. The campus looks beautiful and has not changed too much." ✷ Last spring, artist **Phoebe Twichell Peterson** had her first solo show, the "Boatscapes and Landscapes" exhibit. Previously working as a graphic designer, Phoebe decided several years ago to make painting a career. However, with three children to take care of, it's taking time to build a portfolio. She says, "I'm trying to juggle laundry and sports. Paintings don't exactly jump off the easel." Her paintings sold well at the exhibit. ✷ **Alison Moore** was married May 21, 2005, to King Harris at their house in Bridgehampton, N.Y. **Cynthia Marlette Armstrong** was the maid of honor and Tom Delavan '85 also attended. ✷ **Jenni Blake** and husband Ned White welcomed daughter Mackenzie Blake White on July 12. ✷ **Kate Wallace Perrotta** and family spent last Easter in England with **Sue Whitty Zehner** and her family at their home away from home last year. They were able to spend some time with Jason Bacon '84 and David Torres '84 as well. Sue and gang returned to New Haven, Conn., this past fall. ✷ In October, **Rebecca Gilman**'s play, *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball*, was presented at James Madison University's School of Theatre and Dance. It originally premiered at London's Royal Court Theatre in March 2004. Rebecca focuses her plays upon social problems and her work is intentionally provocative. She said recently her aim is to produce works that challenge audiences to examine the ways in which they live. ✷ After 20 years in the classroom, **Curtis Hier**, a social studies teacher at Fair Haven (Vt.) Union High School, is challenging current educational reform measures. In his book, *A Teacher Talks Back: A View of Education Reform from the Classroom*, he takes aim at politicians pushing proposals of accountability, school choice, and merit-based pay. "Over the years I got a little bit fatigued hearing a whole lot of other people's opinions, people who haven't spent a lot of time in the classroom, so I wanted to weigh in. I think 20 years is a good time."

—Class Secretaries: *Torsten Garber (skytag@verizon.net); and Kate Wallace Perrotta (pgperrotta@verizon.net).*

87 REUNION CLASS

Rob Jenkins is proud to announce the arrival of third daughter Erica Danielle on September 22, joining twin big sisters Amanda and Meredith (2)! Rob and wife Clara moved to South Orange, N.J., recently and Rob still enjoys private equity investing as a principal with Pouschine Cook Capital Management in NYC. ✷ **Paul Bottino** was at the Suffolk Univ. Centennial Academic Convocation in September for the inauguration of a new president. ✷ In October, **James Connolly** was on campus to give a presentation and talk to students about Northeastern University's MSA/MBA program and about a career in accounting. Jim is a partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Boston and is an MSA/MBA alum. ✷ With the E.coli scare involving spinach this past fall, **Brennan Starkey** went through some bad times. Although the tainted spinach came from California, the demand for all spinach fell just as he was about to harvest his 1,000 acres in Maryland. Brennan, along with other farmers, was featured in a *Washington Post* article on the consequences of the outbreak. Brennan commented, "I'm 3,000 miles away. Why am I thrown in with that part of the country?" Starkey Farms also produces wheat, soybeans, corn, and lima beans but spinach has been the main crop since the 1930s. Brennan lives on the farm with his wife and two children, mother and father, and

brother and family. ✳ After several years in the restaurant business and then working as a Montessori method teacher of preliminary students aged 18 months to three years, **Liza Weekes** became the head of school at the Pioneer Montessori School in the town where she grew up. She loves her job. "It's definitely where I belong," she says. "I'm trying to give back to the community that raised me." Many of her family members have been teachers and brother Harry is the head of science at another local school.
—Class Secretaries: *Tom Funk (tfunk@VTBear.com); and Elizabeth Ryan O'Brien (obrien@bigwhoop.com)*

88

Cohen and Steers, Inc., announced last summer that **Leonard Geiger** was joining its global real estate securities team as senior VP and director of European research. He's based in the firm's London office but also works with the firm's global investment team located in New York, Brussels, and Hong Kong. With both an M.A. in international affairs and an MBA from Columbia Univ., Lenny has 14 years investment experience. ✳ At age 39, **Timothy Farrell** took over the job as executive director of the Port of Tacoma, making him one of the youngest executive directors of a major U.S. port. His master's degree in port and marine transportation management from the Univ. of Washington, as well as work in other ports, including a job with the Mass. Port Authority, have helped to give him the experience he needs to lead the rapidly growing Port of Tacoma. ✳ **Carolyn Grose** has joined the faculty of William Mitchell College of Law as an associate professor. She teaches family law, writing & representation (advice & persuasion), and also in the clinical program. Carolyn earned her J.D. from Brooklyn Law School. ✳ After being promoted last winter to senior VP, **Todd Fonner** was recently promoted to the positions of chief risk officer and chief investment officer at RenaissanceRe Holdings Ltd. ✳ **Marianne Graveline Purushotham** is a research actuary, products research, at LIMRA International. Prior to joining LIMRA, Marianne spent eight years at New England Financial in Boston, and two years at MassMutual. She earned her master's in applied mathematics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.
—Class Secretaries: *John Brainerd (jbinfbx@gmail.com); and Claire Gwatkin Jones (gwatko@yahoo.com), 334 N. Oakland St., Arlington, VA 22203.*

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This past September, **Tim O'Shea** was a guest on the radio show, "Speaking Volumes," on WSCA, Portsmouth, N.H. The show featured a discussion of his book, *Don't Think Less of Me*. ✳ **Penny Post** sent this update: "Callum Addison Post Chang joined us and big sister Abigail (5) in October 2005. (Yes, the Addison is partly there because Deron Chang '90 and I met in Addison County, Vt.!) We are all doing well. I am currently the director of quality and regulatory affairs for Protein Sciences Corporation, a biopharmaceutical company in Connecticut. Deron is a science teacher at the boarding prep school Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Conn., where he runs the science research program. He works among many Midd alum teachers and administrators! We hope to make it back for my 20th reunion—yikes!" ✳ **Nicole Paul** writes, "After working as a translator and medical writer for the last 11 years at Merck, I started veterinary school at UPenn in August 2006. Horse dissections, fetal pig cross sections, histology slides, and wildlife medicine are now part of my daily routine. My main interests are veterinary public health and zoonotic diseases, which could certainly involve international travel and continued use of my languages. I would love to hear from classmates and professors at nikalynne@yahoo.com."
—Class Secretaries: *Keith Pennell (kpennell@dfwcapital.com); and Jeff Somers (jeffs@zillow.com).*

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After nearly five years of living overseas (first in Paris, then Hong Kong, then Singapore), **Adlai Hardin** moved back home to New York in March 2002. About six months later he joined the corporate restructuring group at Skadden Arps. Ad married Elizabeth Besio in 2004 in Washington, D.C. Middlebury wedding guests included **John Hurst**, **Ian Kelley**, **John Rice**, and Matt Stewart '91. ✳ **Winona Dorschel** and Patrick McCarthy married on August 12, 2006, at Canandaigua Lake, N.Y. The couple resides in Singapore. Several classmates were in attendance at the wedding including **Pam Adelman**, **Kristen Peterjohn Brown**, **Stephanie Cooper**, **Tizz Strachan Miller**, **Schuyler Garrett Ryon**, **Gillian Skovron**, **Beth Soanes O'Brien**, **Elizabeth Toder**, and **Betsy Winchester**. ✳ Betsy Winchester is a substitute teacher in the Denver school system and plays and officiates ice hockey. ✳ Tizz Miller and husband Scott own 16 steer (for Scott's roping practice), 16 chickens (number varies depending on fox forays into the chicken coop), two goats, and four dogs at their home in Bellevue, Idaho. ✳ After 11 years living in San Francisco, last summer **Kelly Kennedy** moved to sunny Marin County. Kelly works for Williams-Sonoma, Inc., in San Francisco as VP of treasury. She and husband Ziya just celebrated their one-year anniversary; they were married at a mountain retreat near Mendocino in September 2005 and spent one month honeymooning in South Africa. Kelly and Ziya are the proud owners of a three-year-old flat-coated retriever mix named Sadie that they adopted from the local SPCA. ✳ **Paul** and **Amy Carmola Hauf** welcomed daughter Anna Beatrice on June 23. Paul, Amy, Anna, and William (3.5) live in Richmond, Vt. ✳ **Laura Rude Barletta** writes in with her big news that on December 4, 2005, she added a fourth baby to the family in Weston, Mass., where they've lived for four years. They named her Valentina Maria, joining Charlotte (9), Vincent (8), and Violet (5). Laura writes, "I left my job in real estate finance after my first baby was born, so I'm officially a housewife. I spend my time driving my kids around, taking care of the baby, and volunteering at the school. In my free time (HA!), I play tennis, run, and take a needlepoint class downtown." ✳ In October, **Elisabeth Grinspoon** was on campus to take part in an International Studies Colloquium entitled "Environmental Issues and Actions in China Today." Lisa is a regional social scientist in resource planning and monitoring for the U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, and author of the dissertation "Socialist Wasteland Auctions: Privatizing Collective Forest Land in China's Economic Transition" (UC Berkeley, 2002). ✳ **Myles Moody** and Erin Reibling were married on September 16 at the San Francisco Theological Seminary's Montgomery Chapel in Marin County, Calif., with several Midd alums present. The couple took a honeymoon in Jamaica. Myles is a property developer in Marin County and Erin works with abused children in San Francisco.
—Class Secretaries: *Dawn Cagley Drew (dmd_phr@hotmail.com); and Elizabeth Toder (eatoder@hotmail.com), 242 Baltic St., Apt. 11, Brooklyn, NY 11201.*

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This past fall, **Patrick Berry** joined the College staff as a major gifts officer. Previously he served as the policy director for the Vermont Natural Resources Council. He also sits on the Vermont Commission for Climate Change as well as other boards relating to conservation and the environment. Patrick earned his master's in environmental science from the Univ. of Montana. In his spare time, he is an accomplished banjo player, fly-fisherman, triathlete, and refurbisher of homes. Patrick and wife Brooke have sons Quinn (5) and Willem (2). ✳ Global Green USA, along with Brad Pitt, ran a sustainable design architectural competition for the areas of New Orleans devastated by Hurricane Katrina. **Drew Lang**'s entry, "The Levee," was one of six finalists chosen out of 3,000 registrants. The goal of the contest was to demonstrate how green design and good design can be brought together in an innovative way, thus ensuring that housing is truly affordable and healthy. ✳ Lane Powell recently added **Jonathan Norling** as a shareholder in the firm's real estate and land-use practice group. Jon earned his J.D. from the Lewis & Clark College Northwestern School of Law and was a partner at the Portland, Ore., firm of Lovinger Norling Kaufman LLP before joining Lane Powell. ✳ After earning an M.S. in operations research from Columbia Univ., **Kiran Datar** went on to work with the treasury department of ABN Amro in Chicago and then moved to Credit Suisse. At that point he decided he would rather work for himself and in 1995, with three friends, he moved to India and started CyberBazaar in 1996. CyberBazaar is a leading teleconferencing service provider. Four years later, they were bought by U.S.-based WebEx, which is now one of the leading providers of videoconferencing, webcasting, and webconferencing in India. Kiran is managing director of WebEx Communication India. The company originally started with just four employees and now employs 300, which Kiran is looking to double.
—Class Secretaries: *Bill Driscoll (william.driscoll@rhi.com); and Kate J. Kelley (k_kelley@comcast.net).*

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Éva Martin has a full and happy life in Princeton, N.J., where she took her time finishing her doctorate (Princeton, 2006) to concentrate on building a family. She and husband Jim (married October 2001) welcomed second daughter Ella Céleste on November 25, 2005. Ella's older sister, Chloé Madeleine (born March 17, 2003), attends the École Française de Princeton (New Jersey's only French preschool) and, her parents are proud to say, is fully bilingual. Éva began another phase this fall, commuting two times a week to NYC, where she is an assistant professor of French literature and culture at Columbia. Thankfully, husband Jim works from home as computer whiz and "making ends meet" genius. Éva sends her love to all her old Midd friends and would welcome any of their news! ✳ **Amy Randall Hazel**, owner/operator of the Deschutes Angler Fly Shop in Maupin, Ore., and **Kingman Gordon** spent a beautiful September day floating through the deep gorge of Central Oregon's mighty Deschutes River—a.k.a Amy's "office." Kingman hired fly-fishing guide and classmate Amy to teach him the ropes of steelhead fishing. Amy managed to keep Kingman and a colleague fairly dry as the driftboat plunged through the rapids, and Kingman miraculously managed to avoid hooking himself in the face as he learned a new facet of fly-fishing known as spey casting. In pursuit of the elu-

sive steelhead, Kingman spent from dawn 'til dusk flogging the water to a froth—only to watch his buddy hook up with a steelhead in the final spot of the day. Alas, no fish were brought to hand, but two old friends had the chance to catch up and talk about college days, adventures since, and the frightening thought that it has been almost 15 years since graduation! * **Sarah Gordon Littlefield** and her husband welcomed son Hayes in July. He joins big brother Johnston (3). Hayes made an early appearance—just hours after Sarah and Johnston had arrived home in Boston from five weeks in Fairlee, Vt., at Aloha Camp, where Sarah has been assistant director for the past five years. She is also part of an a cappella quartet, Talk to the Hand, that just released its second album, *The Royal Whee!* Liz Hopper Whitelam '91, former Mischord colleague of Sarah's, is also in the quartet. Check them out (www.talk2thehand.com). * **Becca Sofferman Buerkett** lives in Saranac Lake, N.Y., in the beautiful Adirondacks with her husband and two daughters, ages 9 and 5. She works as an environmental consultant for E.X. Browne, Inc., in Saranac Lake. She occasionally sees **Damon** and **Lori Racha Silverman** who recently moved to Burlington where Damon took a position in the otolaryngology department at Fletcher Allen Hospital—working with Becca's dad! She also saw **Jenn Feeley Kearney** and her family last summer when they stopped in Ann Arbor on their way home from a family reunion. * **Shawn Emory Ankeny** is still loving life in Jackson, Wyo., where she spends time with **Ted Kyle**, **Anthony Rojo**, and **Brian Schilling** and their families. Congratulations to Brian who just started working for the town of Jackson as the Pathways coordinator, trying to create a master plan for the town and county pathways system. Both architects, Shawn and husband Andy designed and built their house two years ago. The house was featured in the October 2006 issue of *Dwell* magazine. After seven-and-a-half years of working at a firm in Jackson, Shawn started her own architecture firm in May 2005 and has been really busy ever since. Shawn saw **Dana Tiedemann Hulslander**, **Timiny Rankin Braemer**, and Robin Madsen '90 recently in Seattle. Dana and Robin both had their first children this year. If anyone is ever in Jackson, please look Shawn up (sankeny@bresnan.net). * **Hannah Covert** continues to work at the Center for Latin American Studies at the Univ. of Florida. A year ago, she took on the job of executive director. In September, she visited with Midd friends Sarah Swanz '93 and **John Doty**. "It was great to see them (we all look exactly the same!) and to meet John's wife Cheryl and daughter Emma." * **Dean Plocher** and Rebecca Smugala were married on June 2, 2006. They happily reside in St. Louis where Dean manages his own law firm and is a municipal judge. * Some baby news: Eliza Hughes Loewald was born to Lauren and **Jon Loewald** on September 9, 2006. * **Steve Schrodel** and wife Phoebe Yager welcomed son Graham Yager Schrodel on October 12. Now Steve can finally use all of the services and products that he offers at the business he founded, Isis Maternity. Phoebe is also putting her skills to work on the home front—she is a pediatrician specializing in critical care at Mass General. * **Matthew Saldivar** is having a successful run on Broadway as Sammy in *The Wedding Singer*. He says, "It feels terrific making my Broadway debut, and there have been a lot of perks. I went to Radio City Music Hall for the first time because I was performing at the Tonys." In July, Matt and his mock-rock comedy band, The Petersons, celebrated the release of their CD, *Upstate*. * In her position as a senior editor at *Vogue*, **Alexandra Kotur** was recently interviewed for *Avenue* (NYC edition). Duties at *Vogue* include working with photographers such as Annie Leibovitz and Jonathan Becker, and working as editor of the "Talking Fashion" society and trend pages. Alexandra came to *Vogue* from an apprenticeship at Ralph Lauren then a stint at *GQ* in London. As editor for photo shoots, she has been everywhere from George W. Bush's office in Houston, to Condoleezza Rice's Watergate apartment (where she listened to Condoleezza play piano). Her most difficult shoot was with Jonathan Becker in Afghanistan for a story about the historic women of Kabul Beauty School. In between photo shoots, Alexandra also published *Carolina Herrera: A Portrait of a Fashion Icon*.

—Class Secretaries: *Fred Laurence (flawrence@ipaa.org); and Sara Weale (sweale@mindspring.com).*

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Blakeley Murrell-Liland has joined her father's veterinary practice in South Woodstock, Vt. After completing vet school at the Atlantic Veterinary College at the Univ. of Prince Edward Island, she first did an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at Tufts Veterinary School, then went to work at the Dover Veterinary Hospital in New Hampshire. But the idea of taking over an established practice lured her back to Vermont, where she grew up. She will slowly build up her hours (as her dad reduces his) especially since she is busy with son Finn, born to her and husband Jon on July 3. * **Neil** and Alyssa Sveden '94 **Sinclair** welcomed Ian Timothy Sinclair on August 26. He joins big sister Harper. Neil is still coaching the men's hockey team at Skidmore College. * **Lee Casselman Whelan** and husband Chris also welcomed a son, Connor Richardson Whelan, on August 16. They have relocated from Chicago to Connecticut and are enjoying being back on the East Coast. * In Princeton, N.J., **Karin Seminack McLaughlin** recently began teaching at Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart. Karin, who graduated from Stuart, teaches seventh-grade history and French in the Lower School grades. She came to Stuart from Villa Victoria Academy where she was a French teacher. * **Lewis Robinson**'s story, "Seeing the World," from his book, *Officer Friendly and Other Stories*, was read this past summer on WNYC by Thomas Gibson, better known as Greg on the TV show, *Dharma and Greg*. * This past fall, the editors of *Treasury & Risk* chose **Jack Thayer** to be on their list of 40 Under 40. The list is comprised of 40 outstanding finance executives under 40 years of age whom the editors consider viable candidates to one day be leaders in corporate America. Jack is VP of corporate strategy and development at Constellation Energy Group, Inc., an electric and gas utility group he joined in 2002. Earlier in his career, he held financial positions at Deutsche Bank Securities and SBC Warburg Dillon Read. Not too long after graduating from Midd, Jack managed the Ugandan AIDS Project operations during a two-year stint as project officer in that country.

—Class Secretaries: *Maria Diaz (latinawriting@gmail.com); and Dan Suratt, 60 Pineapple St., #71, Brooklyn, NY 11201.*

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Julia Harris, M.D. Dartmouth-Brown, recently spent six weeks at a Burmese refugee clinic along the Thai border, followed by a four-week medical/dental expedition to Ladakh, in the remote north Indian Himalaya between Pakistan and Tibet. She is currently halfway through a master's degree program in traditional Chinese medicine in Santa Cruz, Calif. * **Betsy Godshalk Richard** writes, "In August of 2006, we moved to Guam where my husband Glenn is a radiologist at the Navy Hospital. I joined a private practice and am now the only dermatologist in Guam. The kids, Madeline (3) and Alex (1), are loving the tropical life and we plan to do lots of travel in this part of the world." * Piper Jaffray & Co. recently added investment banker **Vitali Trotsko** to its health care investment banking group. Vitali is focusing on life science tools and diagnostics for the firm in New York. He received his master's in economics from Kharkov Univ. in Kharkov, Ukraine, and spent the past six years with the health care group at UBS. * Chris '93 and **Jennifer Partan Hansen** are still living in British Columbia on a small island outside of Vancouver. They now have three kids—little Sage Charis was born last April, making Siena Cate (4) a big sister, and Sterling (5.5) an even bigger brother. Jennifer is the president of the local Montessori School, and Chris continues to work with screenwriters. They've been surprised by the number of alums in the area, including Fern and **Alvin Ung**, who they saw just before their return to Malaysia. * On October 29, 2005, **Kellie Rohrer** and Daniel Hemme were married. Kellie is a pediatric radiologist and Daniel, who is a graduate of Kansas Univ. and has an MBA from Georgetown, is a financial analyst. They live in the Boston area. * It took awhile for **Doug Clarner** to find a career he could love, but for the past six years he's been a furniture maker in East Burke, Vt. For him, furniture making is all about the joy of working with different types of wood. He particularly loves working with reclaimed wood because "reusing a piece of wood means that at the end of the day there's a story attached to my work." He created a sideboard featuring old growth cypress that was once beer vats at the Rheingold Brewery in Brooklyn, N.Y. Check out some of his beautiful pieces at www.clarnerwoodworks.com.

—Class Secretaries: *Gene Swift (geneswift@mac.com); and M. Helene Robertson (mhrobertson.94@alumni.middlebury.edu).*

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Cristina Lopez-Gottardi and her husband have been in Atlanta for the last four years. Last year, Tina completed her Ph.D. in international relations and has a research and teaching appointment at Emory University's Institute for Comparative and International Studies. She continues to remain active with the Middlebury crew team's annual spring-break training trip. * **Zach Rosetti**, while finishing a Ph.D. in special education at Syracuse Univ., is writing his dissertation, "a qualitative study of friendships between high school students with and without developmental disabilities. I coproduced and codirected *My Classic Life as an Artist: A Portrait of Larry Bissonnette*, a documentary film about an artist from Vermont who types to communicate (www.myclassiclifefilm.com). The film won Best Short at the 16th Annual Vermont International Film Festival in October 2005 and was selected as an entry in several other film festivals." * **David** and **Hillary Broome Hamilton** live in Middlebury with son Owen (2.5). Hillary telecommutes as an associate at the L.A. office of Skadden Arps, and Dave works for a real estate development company that specializes in sustainable development and farmland preservation, while teaching architecture part-time at Middlebury

College. Dave's latest project required their family to temporarily relocate to Charlottesville, Va., this past fall. ✷ **Jeff Albertson** is living in Seattle with his partner of eight years, Ben Vogt. They are gradually remodeling a 1912 home, which in Seattle qualifies as "old." Jeff is a product manager for Windows CE at Microsoft, serves on nonprofit boards in human services and environmental conservation, and is playing right field in the Puget Sound Senior Baseball League. Ben and Jeff attended the engagement party of **Meredith Hinkley** and Christine Jacobs '97 in Portland, Ore., where they caught up with **Mike** and **Lyn Lipscomb Berkley** while drinking Otter Creek Ale that had found its way out to a specialty beer shop in Portland. ✷ **Lindsay Adams Foote** wrote last spring, "Since graduating, I spent two years teaching skiing and met my husband at Smuggs. I went to physical therapy school at UVM, graduating in 2000. After five years working in a private pediatric practice in Williston, I have been working as the school PT for the Burlington School District. We live in Jericho with daughter Abbey (3) and my husband is a realtor in northern Vermont." We received more news about Lindsay. She and Don welcomed Emily Eliza on June 12! ✷ **Chad Cooper** writes, "I am a financial planner with Prudential Financial, and last year I qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table. In May, the Univ. of New Mexico Anderson School of Business selected me as one of three outstanding young alumni for contributions to the New Mexico business community. In the spring, I will teach an undergraduate course on risk management at UNM. In December, wife Carolyn Ramos '93 and I celebrated 10 years of marriage. Son Santiago is two years old." ✷ **Rob Nathan** and wife Patricia are enjoying life with son Asher Maciel Nathan, who was born on the 4th of July (guess he wanted to make sure there was always a party for him). The Nathan family lives in Vancouver, B.C., where they are all trying to get enough sleep! ✷ Jackson Noah Moss was born on December 12, 2005, to first-time parents **Jennifer Breslow Moss** and husband Andrew. Baby Jackson and parents are living in Cambridge, Mass., where Jennifer took a one-year maternity leave from law firm Choate, Hall & Stewart. She recently caught up with **Beth Whitney**, **Shane Coverdale**, and **Robyn Harrell Soto**, husband Gerardo, and their little boy Massimo (1). ✷ **Lindsey Holmes** has been living back home in Anchorage, Alaska, for five years, practicing law in private practice. She spent the summer campaigning for election to a seat in the Alaska State House of Representatives. Her hard work paid off when she won the primary election in August then went on to win the general election in November with 61 percent of the vote! Congratulations, Lindsey! ✷ **Tim Louzonis** has been stationed in the D.C. area for the past 10 years, but his work takes him to spots like Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, with the occasional trip to Istanbul. "I can't believe that I've been studying and using Russian continually for 15 years—and I never expected that it would lead to a job developing cellular networks in unpronounceable places." ✷ **Maya Van Putten Thompson** is enjoying her Ph.D. studies in child psychology at UC-Berkeley. Her research examines the long-term affects of ADHD in girls. Maya and husband Duffy '94 love being back in San Francisco again. "While we miss NYC sometimes, we go for a jog on the beach in January and feel better about things." Maya welcomes questions about her research (mayamiriam @yahoo.com). ✷ **Rayda Krell** is living in Fullerton, Calif., with husband Sergei and son Dmitri (2.5). "I work as a post-doc in entomology at UC-Riverside, doing research on insects that transmit the bacterium that causes Pierce's disease in grapes." **Kara Sweeney** lives in Canterbury, N.H., with husband Scott Atwell and son Collin (1). Kara is a business lawyer with the law firm of PretiFlaherty. She keeps in touch with **Jud** and **Karen Engler Bartlett**, who live just up the road in Sanbornton, **Liz Siris Winchester**, **Gloria Ehrenberg**, and **Lesley Tucker Zurolo**. ✷ **Paige Pease Melendres** and husband Paul left NYC after eight years and moved with kids Ashley (3.5) and Paul Jr. (1.5) to Albuquerque, N.M., to live near family. Paige and Paul opened their own law firm, Melendres & Melendres, LLC, which celebrated its first year of business. They love living in New Mexico and invite any Midd alum visiting the Land of Enchantment to give them a call. ✷ **Steve Pozatek** is living in NYC and working for a real estate investment firm. ✷ Also living in NYC is **Claudio Salas.** He has been working at Debevoise & Plimpton, a NYC law firm, since graduating from Yale Law School two years ago. Keeping Claudio busy are his two-year-old son and recently born twin boys. ✷ **Jennifer Ryan Onken** and husband Chris (M.A. English '99) spent 1999–2003 teaching in international schools in Alexandria, Egypt, and Beirut, Lebanon. Then they spent two years as HIV/AIDS teacher-trainers with the Peace Corps in the Kingdom of Lesotho in southern Africa. They are now settled in Eliot, Maine, where Jennifer is the dean of students at Berwick Academy. She also teaches English since completing her M.A. in English at Bread Loaf in Juneau, Alaska! On May 10, Jennifer and Chris welcomed son Aengus Griffin Onken. In Maine, they see **Kyle** and **Kristen Renner Swann** and two-year-old twins Clyde and Callen. ✷ Phoebe Folger '94 sent us the sad news that **Yeshi Choden Lama** died in a helicopter crash in eastern Nepal. Yeshi worked for World Wildlife Fund Nepal administering, monitoring, and reporting on their mountain programs and projects. We send our deepest condolences to her family and friends. ✷ Please keep your news coming by e-mailing us; we would love to hear from you.

—Class Secretaries: *Emily Aikenhead Hannon (emily.hannon@hsc.utah.edu); and JP Watson (jpwatson @athensacademy.org).*

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Bates College announced this past summer that **Mike McCollum** had been hired as the interim head swimming coach. Mike had been serving as the assistant swimming coach for the past two years. Prior to coaching at Bates, Mike was head coach at Hamilton (Ohio) High School and SUNY Fredonia as well as assistant coach at Norwich Univ. and William and Mary. ✷ **Steph King Lemke** writes that Wachovia relocated the Lemke family from Baltimore to NYC. Steph is very busy working as a full-time mom for Kelsey (6), James (4), and Brooks (1.5). "We have had a very easy transition to Weston, Conn., and hope this is the last move for awhile!" ✷ Our class has had a lot of weddings lately! On July 8, **Carter Blackwell** married Katherine Cardoza in Falls Village, Conn. ✷ **James Houghtlin** and Erika Crane-Stern '98 were married August 19 at the home of Erika's mother. Erika is in her second year of studies for an MBA at NYU. Jamie is a VP in the legal department of JP Morgan Chase. He received his law degree from Fordham. ✷ At the Mt. Washington Hotel in Bretton Woods, N.H., **Peter Freeland** and Brooke Couch were married on September 23. Peter is a VP of Great Hill Partners, a Boston investment firm, working in New York as an evaluator of its investment decisions. He is also a candidate for an MBA at Columbia. Brooke, a graduate of Colgate, is working on a master's in public administration at NYU. She is a fund-raising assistant at the Whitney Museum of American Art. ✷ On September 3, **Marty Whited** married Jake Kowalski. The couple resides in Cleveland, Ohio. Marty runs her own medical transcription and editing business, as well as selling Mary Kay, while Jake is a banquet cook with Marriott Corp. They share loves of cooking and writing—Marty did a thesis at Norwich Univ. that was a complete cookbook tailored to a physician's practice, and Jake was an award-winning journalist in New York before changing careers to culinary. ✷ The Scarborough (Maine) school district announced that **Benjamin Lucas** had been hired as a part-time psychological examiner. Ben earned his master's in school psychology from the Univ. of Southern Maine and was previously employed as a college admissions counselor and as a teacher and coach at the Hyde School in Bath. ✷ **Weezie Edsell Henderson** and husband Seth welcomed daughter Katherine Taylor Henderson on August 19. She was a little bit early, but is doing wonderfully. Weezie is an analyst relations manager with Sun Microsystems and Seth is an engineer and project manager with a California construction management firm. The Hendersons live in San Jose. ✷ **Amanda Gordon Fletcher** and husband Jonathan welcomed daughter Elizabeth Howe Fletcher on September 28. The Fletcher family lives in Des Moines.

—Class Secretaries: *Amanda Gordon Fletcher (argfletcher@yahoo.com); and Megan Shattuck (meganshattuck@gmail.com).*

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Amy Nichols is working in store communications for Pottery Barn Kids in San Francisco. In her free time, she continues to build her wedding planning business. One of her client's weddings, which took place in Zihuatanejo, Mexico, was featured in the winter edition of *Elegant Bride* magazine. ✷ On August 19, **Jennifer Horn** married Dylan Essner at Trentadue Winery in Sonoma (Calif.) wine country. In attendance were **Andi Bither Malboeuf**, **Rebecca Fine**, **Christine McCann Hamner**, **Laine Catlin**, Craig '96 and **Jocelyn Nill Beni**, **Shannon Reilly**, **Keith** and **Maggie Bittinger Liljegren**, **Nadya Bech-Conger**, and Amy Nichols. ✷ **Matt Bijur** writes, "After six years of working on the Olympics and two years at business school, I'm switching gears a bit and have just started working for a company called KickApps in NYC. We are an Internet startup providing social networking functionality to our clients. In other words, we give any company/entity the ability to have the functionality of MySpace, YouTube, and Flikr on their own Web site (to connect their customers). Other than that, still playing the banjo every once in a while, and skiing, golfing, and biking in Park City when I can." ✷ **Amy Starr Redwine** writes, "On July 19, 2005, Derek and I welcomed Sarah Starr Redwine into the world and we are thoroughly enjoying being parents. We recently relocated from Denver to Akron, Ohio, where Derek is the pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church and I am attending Case Western Medical School in Cleveland, along with three other Midd alums (all of whom graduated in this millenium, not the last!). Med school in your thirties with a baby at home is not as bad as it

LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Chinese

Daniel A. Bell ('90, '91) is a professor at Tsinghua Univ. in Beijing, the school's first foreign philosophy professor since the People's Republic of China was founded in 1949. He specializes in communitarianism and has a book coming out, *Beyond Liberal Democracy*. He lives in Beijing with wife Song Bing (French School '91) and son Julien. ✳ **Susan Jakes** ('96, '97) had an article published in *Time International* last summer outlining the humbling experience she had learning Mandarin at Middlebury. Now she speaks Chinese daily and still finds it humbling!

English

Interviewed by the Wilmington (Del.) *News Journal* this past fall about the elections, **Lloyd Kline** (M.A. '62) recalled a time when Robert Frost visited one of his classes at Bread Loaf and, talking about education, said he didn't want to speed it up or toughen it up, but he wanted to tone it up. "That's how I feel about the current political situation," Kline said. ✳ Fairfield (Conn.) Univ. announced recently that **Ed Paige** ('76) has been named the head coach for the men's and women's tennis program. Ed has been involved in tennis as a player, coach, and writer for nearly 30 years. ✳ **Valorie Foy** (M.A. '85) recently became the director for instruction for the Crete public school district in eastern Nebraska. Previously, Valorie taught secondary school language arts, including creative writing and AP English. ✳ Haverhill Cooperative Middle School teacher **Mary Burnham** (M.A. '97) was one of the first recipients of a Road Scholar Teacher Award as an outstanding teacher and life-long learner. The award will allow her to experience Road Scholar educational adventures in the U.S. and around the world. Mary teaches seventh-grade English and language arts.

French

James Nesbitt (M.A. '63, D.M.L. '83) writes that he is semiretired as a scholar in residence at Grace College in Winona Lake, Ind. ✳ The president of Fairfield (Conn.) Univ. announced this past summer that Rev. **John Hanwell** (M.A. '84) had been appointed president-elect at Fairfield College Prep School. Jack had previously been the associate director of advancement for the New England Province of the Society of Jesus. ✳ **Julianna Nielsen** (M.A. '91 and French School Communications Officer 2002, 2003) and Jean-Claude Redonnet (Director of French School, 1998–2003) were married on August 20 at their home in Falmouth, Maine. French School alumni **Patricia Smith** (M.A. '90) and **John Labrie** ('91) were in attendance, along with former College writer Cynthia Baughman. Julianna and Jean-Claude will continue to live in Falmouth and Paris, France. ✳ After graduating from the School in Paris, **Eleanor Leyden** (M.A. '93) worked for two years as a legal translator for Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, moved to Ecuador to teach ESL and French in national and international schools, then in 1996 moved to Dhaka, Bangladesh, as a French teacher and started an M.A. in Spanish through the Univ. of Northern Iowa. Currently, she is in Yangon, Myanmar, as a secondary French and Spanish teacher. "Caught up with classmates **Sunita Dhurandhar** (M.A. '92) in San Francisco in 2000 and with **Cynthia Clark Plantecoste** (M.A. '96) in Prague in 2005. Would love to be in touch with classmates and welcome all visitors to exotic Southeast Asia." ✳ Dr. **Lisa Gunderman** (M.A. '99) and husband Jean-François Huppé are happy to announce the birth of son Félix James on July 29 in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. ✳ After falling in love with Paris, **Heather Hartley** (M.A. '96) was determined to live there. Now living her dream, Heather rents an apartment in Montparnasse and spends her days writing poetry and teaching private classes in English and grammar. She also serves as the Paris editor for *Tin House* magazine (which includes delivering the magazine to English bookstores).

German

Clifford Crowe (M.A. '61) and wife Mary Lou celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last August 18. Married in 1956 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, they met when both worked at *The Press-Enterprise* in the mid-fifties. ✳ Dr. **Vincent DiNapoli** (M.A. '63, D.M.L. '80) writes, "I am the essayist for my travel and language Web site (www.travelanguist.com) which summarizes my extensive travel (this month, Antarctica) and my multilanguage experience." ✳ **Reinhard D. Theisz** (M.A. '65), Black Hills (S.D.) State Univ. professor and chair of the department of humanities, published his poem "Visions of Faith" in the summer 2006 issue of *Poetry Midwest*, an online literary journal. ✳ Rev. **Ronald Perry** (M.A. '75) has been appointed the new rector of the Boston College High School Jesuit community in Dorchester, Mass. ✳ Despite her German degree and background, **Sue Scheufele Willis** (M.A. '77) has been teaching Spanish at Girard (Pa.) High School since 1981. She loves travel and gets to Europe almost once a year, either with husband Ted or with her students, whom she loves to turn on to traveling.

Italian

Gov. Mike Easley announced recently that he had appointed **Judith Rizzo** (M.A. '69) to the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences Advisory Commission. Judith is the executive director and CEO of the James B. Hunt Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy.

Spanish

Dr. **M. Frances Taylor** (M.A. '61) retired in 2001 as professor of Spanish at Rhode Island College. She taught for 46 years—high school, TV, and college. Since retiring she has traveled to Costa Rica, Panama, China, and Spain. ✳ Author **Marisa** (Graceanne) **Labozzetta** ('71) has a new collection of stories out entitled *At The Copa*. Marisa, who lives in Northampton, Mass., is also the author of *Stay with Me, Lella*. ✳ **Janet Tennyson** (M.A. '95) married Hug Manzano Gomez on October 21 in Barcelona, Spain. Janet is a paralegal for Renova, Ltd., and Hug is a director at Banesto Bank. Following a honeymoon to Hawaii and New York, the couple returned to their home in Barcelona. ✳ Formerly upper school principal at Visitation Academy in St. Louis, **Matthew Walsh** (M.A. '95) was recently named the headmaster at LaGrange (Ga.) Academy. He and wife Janet made the move to Georgia in June with daughter Kate (4). Daughter Ayla was born July 5. ✳ **Jennifer Connelly** (M.A. '03) was married August 5 to Raul Garcia Alonso in NYC. Jenn is a management consultant at the Boston Consulting Group's NYC office. Raul received his master's in public policy from Harvard last June. ✳ This past fall, **Marielena Cosa Villamil** (M.A. '70), president and cofounder of the Washington Economics Group, was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to Miami Dade College's district board of trustees. Last year, she was honored with the Dr. Mario Villarroell International Leadership Award by the American Red Cross.

sounds, at least so far! I can be reached by e-mail at amystarrwine@gmail.com." ✳ **Adam** and **Laurie Higginbotham Duarte** are thrilled to announce the birth of son William Weber Duarte born September 14. ✳ **Katy Birnie Walum** writes, "I graduated from the Univ. of Oregon Law School in 2002 and worked as an immigration attorney in Portland for three years. I married Erik Walum in August 2003 in the Columbia River Gorge, and **Laura Sanchez** was one of my bridesmaids. Erik and I moved to West Seattle last spring, and on December 28, 2005, Erik and I welcomed daughter Olivia Crane Walum. I enjoy being a stay-at-home mama right now (never been happier!) and would love to hear from fellow Midd Kids. Contact me at katy.walum@gmail.com." ✳ Parsons Behle & Latimer announced recently that **Jody Kaufman Curtis** has joined the firm's Salt Lake City office as a member of the firm's litigation dept. She received her law degree from the Univ. of Utah and was admitted to the Utah State Bar in 2006. ✳ It was a busy summer for **Craig Stouffer**, who completed his first national on-air radio work as an analyst for XM Satellite Radio's coverage of the World Cup 2006. Craig covers D.C. United for the *Examiner* in Washington, D.C. He and wife Heather—cousin of **Stephen Goettsche**—recently launched Mom Made Foods, the Washington area's first fresh frozen organic children's food company. Son Emory (1) is director of taste testing. ✳ **Catherine Mitchell** and Jon Wieman were married in a beautiful ceremony overlooking the ocean at the Baccara Resort in Santa Barbara, Calif. Celebrating with them were **Leslie Graham**, **Celena Kingson**, **Helen Froelich Plummer**, **Amy Smith Johnson**, Kate Pinto Smith '98, **Jackie Pelton Hoglund**, and Scott Pokrywa '96. After honeymooning in Fiji, they returned to their new home in Redondo Beach, Calif. ✳ Helen Plummer and husband Ray were proud to announce the birth of son John Raymond Plummer IV on July 1. The Plummer family moved to Beijing, China, in October. ✳ In Stowe, Vt., **Sara Gregg** and Benjamin Hayes were married on July 22. Sara is an assistant professor at Iowa State Univ. Benjamin is employed by Data Privacy Compliance Lead for the Americas, Accenture, LLP. ✳ Reading (Mass.) Memorial High School hired **Kathy Kulis Dailey** to be a member of the practical and performing arts department. Kathy previously taught at Hingham High School and at the middle school level in Belmont and

Brighton. She's instructing both the graphics and digital photography and imaging classes. ✳ While studying at UVM's med school, **Jessica Bordley** found time to volunteer at the Vermont Children's Hospital. Jessica's particular interest lies in pediatric oncology and she loves working with the patients she meets. She has completed more than 400 hours of service. ✳ The 21st Century Scholarship Program, created by **Graham Balch**, is helping to bring Southern students to schools in the Northeast. An Atlanta native, Graham noticed public schools there were having trouble seeing their students through college due to the lack of gap-financing at Southern schools. He contacted schools in New England and, working through the program Project GRAD, got them to agree to offer full scholarships to students who applied and were accepted through his program. Eight students in all were accepted for this school year, three at Middlebury. ✳ **Clint Bierman**, founder of the band The Grift, and fellow band members, Jeff Vallone '98 and Peter Day '01, are back in the Middlebury area and going strong. They're on track to perform about 150 gigs a year up and down the East Coast, with a few gigs down South and in Jamaica. In 2004, they came out with a CD, *Live Beyond Aluminum*, and they are working on a follow-up.

—Class Secretaries: *Jocelyn Nill Beni (jocelynbeni@yahoo.com); and Jacklyn (Pelton) Hoglund (jackiehoglund@comcast.net).*

98

Happy 30th birthdays, Class of 1998! Hope you all are celebrating this momentous occasion in style. **Jill Patey** celebrated her 30th with an August Pong Tournament on Cape Cod—the indulgent debauchery included "I heart JP" T-shirts and a bejeweled tiara. Please contact Jill if you would like to purchase one of these limited edition T-shirts. ✳ **Jenny Arnold**, who relocated back to San Francisco from D.C., celebrated her 30th with a blow out in Tiburon; Midd attendees included **Kelly Johnson**, who just moved back to SF after three years in Miami Beach, Brian "I work for Google" Schmidt '97 and **Michelle Spina Schmidt**, who just moved to SF from two heavenly years in Vermont. Kelly casually celebrated her 30th with a two-week trip to Italy. ✳ **Jess Perkins** just moved to Seattle with husband Kelley to begin a neonatology fellowship (definition of the N word: *Specializing in the care and treatment of newborn infants*). In Seattle, Jess says she has reconnected with **Ingrid Haight Killian** and is having a blast. ✳ **Vic** (Victorious) **Abundis** reports the notorious **Myles Felsing**, of the legendary Stew 2 boys, threw a bash in Laguna Beach, Calif., to celebrate his wedding day in August. Midd attendees included **Gregory** (Pooh-Bear) **Poulos**, **Matt** (Society) **Lasek**, Andy (The Grossman) Gross '74, Steve Anderson '73, **Brett Alessi**, **Rob Cohen**, Vic Abundis, Downtown **Lauren Brown**, and **Rebecca Viscount**. He also says that it was "great hangin' out with Mike (Roachie) Roche '97 at Pooh-Bear's wedding." Vic's contact info: abundisv@parkhill.k12.mo.us. ✳ Other amazing weddings of the summer included **Tim Weld** and **Suwha Hong**'s wedding in Middlebury. After a two-month honeymoon around the world, Tim and Suwha moved to London. ✳ **Kate Pinto** and Michael Smith were married on June 3 in East Greenwich, R.I. Kate received her MBA from Johnson and Wales Univ. and is a senior technology project manager at Johnson and Wales. Michael is a technology manager also and together they co-own a restaurant/pub. ✳ **Sacha Janke** and Jay Erickson were married on September 3 at the home of Jay's parents in Southbury, Conn. They were married in a Russian Orthodox service (with **Brandon Doyle** playing the horn), and a celebratory dinner and dancing followed. The couple lives in NYC. ✳ At Mead Chapel, **Erin Dempsey** and **Ian Berger** were married on July 29. Erin is working in Manhattan as the retail marketing director for the young readers division of Penguin, the British publishing company. Ian is a writer for television. ✳ **Damjan de Krnjevic-Miskovic** married Zorica Zukanovic on September 10, 2006, in Belgrade in the private chapel of the Patriarchate of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the presence of best man **Ivan Beraha** and more than 250 other friends and family members. Damjan, the foreign policy advisor to the president of Serbia, and Zorica, the director of compliance at Serbia's largest bank (Komercijalna Banka), are happily settling into their recently purchased apartment in the center of Belgrade. They may be reached at zorica.and.damjan@gmail.com. ✳ **Kevin Murphy** got married on August 19. Murph and Melissa chartered a bareboat out of St. Martin for the honeymoon and sailed all over the Leeward Islands for two weeks. "We liked St. Barth's the best, but Anguilla was beautiful, as well. Aside from Melissa's brief bout with seasickness during the passage from St. Martin to St. Barth's and one minor navigational error courtesy of yours truly (it was just the two of us, no captain, and I refused to use the GPS because I was trying to be a purist), the sailing was outstanding. We're planning to do it again this spring or summer, maybe in the BVI or possibly in Croatia. I've also been working like a dog on my first bankruptcy case and a pro bono criminal appeal (also a first)." ✳ Always the competent multitasker, within a short three-month span, **Molly Campbell Voorhees** graduated with an MBA from Stanford, moved home to Houston with husband Coert '96, and gave birth to son Dayton Campbell Voorhees. ✳ **Dan** and **Melissa Loeben Nelson** welcomed son Cooper Daniel George Nelson in October. Dan, who many of you know was on active duty for four years, has been recalled (from inactive reserves) for duty in Iraq, and reported to Fort Jackson on December 3. Dan, please know we are all thinking of you. ✳ **Tanner** and **Jordan Lungstrum Blackburn**, of College Station, Texas, are happy to report that Owen James Blackburn was born on October 4 with a full head of Blackburn black hair. Dr. Tanner is still influencing innocent freshman minds as an engineering professor at Texas A&M. ✳ **Ben Dixon** writes, "After my marriage to Emily Humphrey '00, we took a honeymoon in Sardinia, Italy. I then finished with my job at Harvard where I had been a grants and contracts specialist and graduate student in sustainable development and environmental resource management. After a trip to Alaska to hike, kayak, and visit Sondra LeClair '00, we moved to Canton, N.Y., just minutes south of the St. Lawrence River. We both work at St. Lawrence Univ. Emily is asst. professor of biochemistry, and I am the university coordinator of economic development. We are also now proud homeowners in Canton, and I have a new set of mountains to conquer—the Adirondacks." ✳ Last May, **Kimberly Finnigan** received her J.D. from William and Mary School of Law. She is working in a law firm in Albany, N.Y. ✳ **Cameron Dickson** and **Jan Groblewski** are living in D.C. Cameron received her doctorate in clinical psychology from George Washington Univ. in May 2006 and Jan is a senior resident in otolaryngology/head and neck surgery at Georgetown Univ. Hospital.

—Class Secretaries: *Katie Whittlesey Comstock (katie.comstock@staubach.com); and Nate Johnson (nate_johnson@mac.com).*

99

Adam Burns is awaiting the return of Rob (Virg) Kerchner '00 to NYC and is planning a gala reunion bash in Rob's honor. Congratulations also go to Adam for throwing a phenomenal after-party at **Sara Doniger** and **Greg Parent**'s wedding. ✳ Speaking of which, Sara and Greg were wed on August 19 at the American Yacht Club in Rye, N.Y. The wedding was a wonderful combination of evening outdoor service and reception featuring prime rib and plenty of dancing. ✳ Also married were **Sarah Hall** and Thomas Weigel on September 23 in Chestnut Hill, Mass. Sarah works in Boston as the assistant news editor at E! Online, the Web site of E! Entertainment, the cable TV network. Her new husband is a child psychiatrist at the Klarman Eating Disorders Center at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass., and a clinical instructor in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. ✳ **Kristine Kraushaar** continues to enjoy her work for the law firm of Robinson Cole in Boston. Evidently she impressed the partners enough so that she had the weekend of September 30 free to sail in the second annual Boston Harbor Islands Regatta with **Peter Steinberg** and father Ronald Steinberg (Syracuse '69). The trio guided their Soling *Lickety Split* to a mid-fleet finish, a substantial improvement over last year's placing. ✳ **Ian McGuinn** was recently spotted in Hanover, N.H., where he is studying at Tuck for a semester as part of his program through the Fletcher School at Tufts. ✳ **John** and **Frances Madsen Maletis** are also frequent fliers in the Hanover social scene, as John is in his final year at Tuck. ✳ **Jeanne Restivo Jacoby** has started a new job at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. She is now heading up consultation services for inpatient diabetes care—she's a big blood sugar guru now! ✳ The law firm of Bernstein Shur recently hired **Josh Silver** to be a member of the technology and business law practice groups. Josh earned his law degree in 2005 from the Univ. of Maine School of Law. ✳ **Aaron Tyler** completed a successful move around the corner from his old apartment in Brookline, Mass. His new apartment appears much more water-resistant than the last. ✳ **Matt Bak** is almost at the end of a very long and soggy Kleenex as a fourth-year ear-nose-throat resident at the Univ. of Rochester. He's seen his share as well as your share and my share of runny noses over the past four years. ✳ **Chris Morosky** is winding down his ob/gyn residency at Connecticut, and recently demonstrated his prowess at slip and sliding. Unfortunately for Chris, he was in a navy suit and on the dance floor of a wedding he attended at the time of his most recent slip and slide. The crowd was pleased regardless. ✳ **Chris Lindstrom** is gearing up for another season of basketball on the Upper West Side. Hopefully Santa brings him a new pair of high-tops and a decent jump shot this year! ✳ **Cate Devlin** reports she is living the high life in Tennessee and contemplating a career in higher education. ✳ **Dan Meyer** and **Molly Magill** were recently spotted in New York. There is no further information available about the encounter. ✳ **John Felton** reports that London is great, and that he and Ann Russell Felton '01 are having the time of their lives; however, he also states that he had his first asthma attack the minute the door opened at the airport. ✳ **Lisa Janicki** has an

WEDDINGS

On May 28, 2006, Christine Castro and Mike Cooley '01 celebrated their marriage in East Burke, Vt., with friends (all '01 unless noted) Stacy Brendtro '05, Rick Cooley '04, Roy Cooley '72, Garrett Dodge, Emily Stonehouse, Sarah Cooley Dunleavy '00, Howie Young '96, Dana Dunleavy '00, the newlyweds, Raena Schraer '02, Shams Helminski '02, Jason Oleet '00, Eric Goldwarg '00, Tom Keon, Geordie Raisig McLeod, Tom Santoro, Scott McLeod, and Mike Mazzotta '03.

The wedding of Holen Miles '99 and John Lewis (Williams '99) took place in Chatham, Mass., on November 5, 2005. An evening reception followed at the Chatham Bars Inn where friends helped celebrate: (all '99 unless noted) Kate Landis Loewengart, Alanna Shanley, Buffy Hastings Lenth, the newlyweds, Chiara Rosati, Malaya Rivera-Drew, (back row) Todd Andersen '94, Jason Golder '98, Michael Loewengart '98, Rite Moisio Bouchner, and Paul Provost '87. Elizabeth Frankel missed the photo.

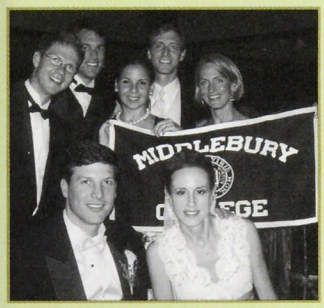
On Peaks Island, Maine, Kate Turner '00 married Bob Bateman on June 24, 2006. Joining them in the celebration of their marriage were (all '00 unless noted) Abby Stoller, Jessica Howe Thomson, the bride, Katie Lichtenstein, (back row) Matt Elder, Alex Bradley, Brian Deese, Jim Thomson, and Kara Arsenault '02.

Sally Helms and Craig Pittman Jr. '04 were married on June 17, 2006, in Enterprise, Ala. Midd friends joining in the celebration were (all '04 unless noted) Dan Visel, David Moan, (back row) Jessica Larson, Tony Garofano, Colin Lantry, Matt Wolf, Judge Craig Pittman '78, the newlyweds, Brian Erb, Eric Shanley '05, Lauren Gonnella '05, Ryan Cunningham, and Donald Anselmi.

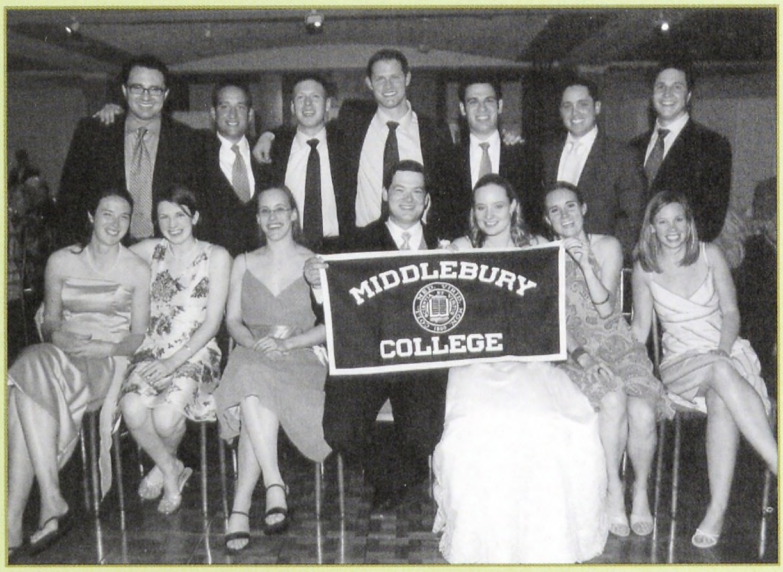
Phyllis Merikallio '87 married Dan Ford on May 28, 2006, at the Dockside in York Harbor, Maine. Celebrating with them were (all '87 unless noted) Bernard Condon, Laura Mullahy, Beth Winters Porter, Trish Clary (with Mr. B), Greg and Amy Beckwith Lupica, the newlyweds, Sue Cooper Hermanson, Todd Hermanson '84, Ann Poletti, and Emily Ferman.

Midd friends from the Class of 2000 joined Genevieve Berdoulay '00 and Kelly Coffey in the celebration of their marriage in Bondville, Vt., on July 15, 2006: Tim Dewey-Mattia, Phoebe Chase, Adam Popkin, Irakly Areshidze, David Babington, Tom Flynn, Erica Hill, and Mike Cordaro.

Isabel Cernada '91 married Kevin Purdy on July 15, 2006, in West Greenwich, R.I.



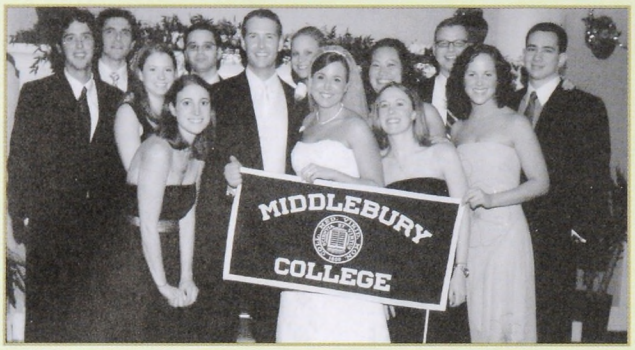
Celebrating the wedding of Aida Longo and Sam Knowles (M.A. Spanish '00) on July 28, 2006, in Washington, D.C., were (all M.A. Spanish '99) Kevin Drever, Scott Webster, Ande Mercurio Ogden, Chuck Tompkins, and Nicole Mitchell.



Meredith Livoti '01 and Krystian Mialkowski were married in Scarsdale, N.Y., on May 28, 2006. Midd friends celebrating with them were (all '01) Kristy Laramee Kerin, Jean Burr, Kate Wright Kelly, the newlyweds, Kristina Lyons, Ashley Sullivan, (back row) John Colianni, Ryan Klinghoffer, Dan Deroo, Ethan Feuer, Brad Pryba, Chris Everett, and Doug Parobeck. Missing from the photo is C. Ryan Miller.

Emily Greenstein '02 and James Munro '02 were married May 21, 2006, at the New York Botanical Garden. Celebrating with them were (all '02 unless noted) Douglas Parobeck '01, Skye Borden '06, Elinor Roberts, Caitlin Ryan, Robyn Cook, Kara Arsenault, Aaron Fine, Valerie O'Hearn, Sandra Carlson, Ashley Sullivan, (back row) David Caragliano, Joshua Billings '03, Mark Roche, Daniel Greenstein '05, R. Thomas Hale '01, Daniel Goldman '01, the newlyweds, Brian Deese '00, Bradley Pryba '01, Terrence Burek '03, C. Ryan Miller '01, Christopher Everett '01, and Jeffrey Polubinski. Ethan Feuer '01 missed the photo.

WEDDINGS



Kristen Sylva '01 married Larry Capodilupo (Yale '96) on May 13, 2006, at Saint Anne's Church in Southborough, Mass. A reception at Charter Oak Country Club followed and, despite the torrential rain, a good time was had by many Midd friends: (all '01 unless noted) Adam Taylor (cousin of the groom), Kate Griffiths Wilk, Becky Ruby '02, the newlyweds, Leslie Fox Arnould, Val O'Hearn '02, (back row) Francisco Peschiera, Corey Wilk, Erin Sussman, Ann Marie Wong, Matthew Arnould, and James Tsai.

Happy Midd friends celebrated with Katherine Cardoza and James Carter Blackwell '96 at their wedding in Falls Village, Conn., on July 8, 2006: (all '96 unless noted) Fritz Muench, Jamie Houghtlin, Jon Barlow '97, Steve Boyd, Kevin Burke, Zack Free, (back row) Reed Austin '75, Sacha Janke '98, Sam Martini, Erika Crane-Stern '98, Tony Cardoza '91, Rev. Addison Hall '69, Cristina Salas-Porras '91, Chiori Takahashi, the newlyweds, Oliver Power, Jennifer Walton Burke '98, Jim Bruce, Alex Dessouky, and Bain Smith.

On April 29, 2006, Erin Burns '00 and Tim Sullivan '00 were married under a 600-year-old live oak tree at Eden Gardens State Park near Grayton Beach, Fla. The bayou setting had family and friends dancing to the music of Curley Taylor & Zydeco Trouble. The couple later left in a kayak with the following Midd friends there to see them off: (all '00 unless noted) Jared Baird, Michelle Morton Baird '01, Alex Nelson, Helen Gemmill, Margaret Symonds, Lizzie Lokey, the newlyweds, Amanda Ayres Philipps, Dave Philipps, Allison Greenwood Bajracharya, Josh Otlin, Mike Kautz, Rachel Otlin, and Lauren Rachal.

Jessica Monroe '02 and William Vaughan '01 were married July 8, 2006, at Mead Chapel. A reception at the Waybury Inn followed with plenty of Midd friends to help celebrate: Alex Sperling '01, Maressa Perreault '03, Jennifer Cupani Porter '01, Lourie Yelton '01, the newlyweds, Deborah Gaines Monroe '70, Nina Kieves '02, Becky Ruby '02, Ellie Toan Cipolla '02, (second row) Mariah McKechnie Fadziewicz '01, Russell Costa '01, Reid Porter '01, Tom Marks '01, Abi Butler Marks '00, Ashley Elpern '02, Nico Kieves '02, Chris Mitchell '01, John Stevenson '70, Douglas Monroe '70, (third row) Benjamin Howe '03, Michael Alonzo '01, Elizabeth Padgett Northrop '01, Elizabeth Beetem '02, Eli Sugarman '02, Justin Drechsler '02, Lisa McAndrews '02, Caitlin Corey Drechsler '02, Heidi Rothrock '03, (fourth row) Dauvin Peterson '01, Brian Northrop '01, John Mitchell '03, Alison Hertel Reuter '02, Patrick Ward '02, and Christopher Loeffler '04.

Kellie Rohrer '94 and Daniel Hemme were married October 29, 2005, at the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J. Midd friends Leo Quinn '94 and Jin Pyun '94 were in attendance.

Annie Nichols '02 and Morgan Jones '02 were married at the Wilburton Inn in Manchester, Vt., on August 19, 2006. Midd friends who joined them in the celebration included (all '02 unless noted) Bridget Dungan, Kadion Phillips '03, Anne Alfano, Lauren Cacciapaglia, Katharine Wolf, Eric Devon, Amanda Maxwell, Stephen Messinger, (second row) Melinda Graber, Michele Miers-Phillips, Laura Bloom, Amy Hendrickson, Vinny Idone '01, Tauna Saunders Idone, the newlyweds, Courtney Lane, Michelle Mejia, Danielle Perkins '03, Dana Gordon, Ben Weber, Sarah Knoebel, Janet Halstead Franklin '72, Sarah Nichols '79, (third row) Hannah Ritchie, Chip Franklin, Lee Jones, Seth Coffrin, Pace Ralli, Nick Lesher, Ed Bogart, Bob Israel '71, Rick Kelley '71, Nick Dutton-Swain, Parkin Kent, Derek Chicarilli, Andrew Dombrowski, John Swindal, Chris Fanning, Grove Nichols '71, Ian Bailey, and Churchill Franklin '71. Missing from the photo is Emily Lord '03.

Helen McCabe '92 and Eric Barnes celebrated their April 30, 2006, wedding in Hanson, Mass., with friends from the Class of 1992: Jackie Proulx, Laura Hayes, the newlyweds, Cynthia Gabriel, Fiona McDonald Rose, and Maria Aliberti.

Friends from the Class of '82 celebrated the wedding of John Vergara '82 and Michael Hayden in Truro, Mass., on September 3, 2006: Nancy Rielle, Kim Valenzuela, Beth Stelluto Dunaier, (back row) Caleb Rick, the newlyweds, and Mary Frangakis Clark.

The marriage of Jenny Williams '00 and Sandy Weymouth took place July 1, 2006, in Northeast Harbor, Maine. Midd friends in attendance included (all '00 unless noted) Bryn Kenny '01, Jessa Martin McIntosh, the newlyweds, Deirdre Connolly Bertrand, Jess Grillo Rudolf, James Rudolf '01, (back row) Dave Seeley '02, Whitney Tremaine O'Brien, Amy Leibowitz Shapiro, Katie Raban Seeley, Alyssa Pappas Zink, Eric Zink, Ben and Jen Harding Fritz, Hilary Amoss Gibbons, and Lyndsey Erickson.

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MCAA Nominees

For the term of office beginning July 2007, the slate of nominees for Alumni Trustees is:

Alumna Trustee
Ann Williams Jackson '74

The slate of nominees will be available for viewing and voting on April 1, 2007, at www.middlebury.edu/alumni/mcaa/. Deadline for voting is April 30, 2007.

To appear in the online spring ballot, additional nominations must be received by April 1, 2007. These nominations must include a signed letter of acceptance, updated biographical information, a photo, and 200 alumni endorsing the nominee. For a paper ballot, more information, or to submit nominees, please contact the Alumni Office, McKinley House, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753; phone 802-443-5183; fax 802-443-2082; alumni@middlebury.edu.

interesting job. She's an interview facilitator for Story-Corps, a national oral history project that interviews people all over the country and is sponsored by the Library of Congress and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. She works in a mobile recording booth in an Airstream trailer and is responsible for making participants comfortable and handling the technical aspects of the recording process. She says it's difficult not to get caught up in the stories being told; sometimes they can be intensely personal and emotional, and Lisa admits she cries.
—Class Secretaries: *Melissa Pruessing (mpruessing @yahoo.com); and Peter Steinberg (captfun99 @yahoo.com).*

00 **Hilary Poremski** writes, "I graduated with my MFA in writing from Vermont College last July. I'm still teaching high school English, but I relocated to Pittsford, Vt., and I'm now teaching at Rutland High School, loving it! In August, I enjoyed a week in north central Washington, hanging out and hiking with Kathleen Francis '01." ✳ In Northeast Harbor, Maine, **Jennifer Williams** recently married Sandy Weymouth. With her master's in elementary education from Lesley College, Jennifer is a fourth grade teacher at Buckingham Browne & Nichols in Cambridge, Mass. Sandy is finishing up a master's in environmental engineering at UNH. ✳ **Brad Scott** graduated from the Dealer Candidate Academy of the National Automobile Dealers Association in McLean, Va. The academy is a 12-month apprenticeship course in dealership management. Brad is the general manager at his family-owned dealership, Scott Motors, Inc. ✳ **Jeff Kendig** graduated from Anderson Business School (UCLA) with his MBA and accepted a job with Caltius Equity Partners, a PE firm in L.A. Jeff and a team of his classmates from Anderson were the winners of the 25th annual Knapp Venture Competition held May 25. Jeff's team was also selected to receive a $250,000 venture capital investment as the winner of this year's annual DFJ Venture Challenge business plan competition. ✳ A 2005 graduate of Maine School of Law, **André Duchette** was hired by the law firm of Gosselin, Dubord & Bell. ✳ **Peter Huoppi** was in London, Ontario, in July to photograph the World Lacrosse Championships. While there he ran into **Pete Soden**, who was playing for Ireland. ✳ While in Beijing this past summer working on HIV/AIDS public health programs with the U.N. Population Fund, **Jme Mclean** reconnected with **Gwynn Guilford** and **Lucas Klein**, who are both doing wonderfully. She also got a tour of Hong Kong from Justin Elicker '97. ✳ **Alyssa Root Yengo** writes, "Husband Chris and I, along with daughter Lillian (2), welcomed twin girls Caitlyn and Amelia in September. After four years in California, the Air Force has transferred us to Vance Air Force Base in Oklahoma where Chris will be attending pilot training. This past summer I had the pleasure of visiting Julia Haas Leach '99 in Colorado, along with **Tracy Vermaat Heine** and **Amanda O'Keefe Murchison**. **Kendra Sewall**, and **Alison Stoll Baker** weren't able to come due to work and law school, respectively." ✳ Amanda Murchison decided business was not the career for her. So she earned an M.Ed. from Southern New Hampshire Univ. and has gone into teaching. She now teaches ninth grade English at Goffstown (N.H.) High School. ✳ **John** and **Kate Harrington Dickie** welcomed their first child into the world this past summer. Daughter Nola Claflin Dickie was born on August 23. The Dickies are living in Cambridge, Mass. ✳ **Kim Lange Roberts** writes, "Hello from Starkville, Miss. I was honored to represent Middlebury College at the recent inauguration of Robert (Doc) Foglesong as the new president of Mississippi State Univ." ✳ **Blake Wittman** has been busy across his now-almost-native-Europe, still working for headhunters SpenglerFox, as global practice group leader for banking and finance.
—Class Secretaries: *David Babington (davidbabington @yahoo.com); and Lindsay Simpson (simpsonlindsay@ yahoo.com).*

01 **Kelvin Roldán** ran for state representative in his home state of Connecticut. He won the Democratic primary in August with 63 percent of the vote. He was unopposed for the general election and is taking office as state representative for the 4th Assembly District this January. Congratulations, Kelvin! ✳ In other political news, Jason Adam Oleet '00 wrote to tell us that **Ben Pratt** is now a state representative in Maine, after winning a tight race against the incumbent. Jason, who helped in the last days of the campaign, says, "It was a real privilege to see how much folks in Ben's district respect him, and his commitment to his community." Congratulations, Ben! ✳ In Portland, Maine, **Joshua Broder** is working at Tilson Technology Management as an IT consultant. He returned from living the dream during an all-summer road trip in Oregon and California with Jeff Phillippe '02. They got to enjoy the extreme hospitality of Devon Sigman '02 in Monterey, Calif., during the trip. ✳ **Susan Parsons** wrote in to say, "I've been a little Vermonter in big L.A. for the past year, living in Pasadena, Calif. I just landed a job at Pomona College as the new assistant director in the Office of Study Abroad. I'm really excited about this position, especially the international travel to visit our programs!" ✳ **Adeeb Mahmud** finished his master's in public policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in the summer and is now working as a consultant with FSG Social Impact Advisors. FSG provides consulting in philanthropy and corporate social responsibility to foundations, corporations, and grantees. He still lives in Boston and recently moved to the Fenway neighborhood. ✳ **Kelly Knapp** is a school psychologist in a small public school district just outside of Syracuse, N.Y. She lives in Fayetteville, a suburb to the east of the city. ✳ **Ashley Elicker** is spending her winter quarter of business school at the Indian School of Business in Hyderabad, India. ✳ **John Santerre** traveled to Cambodia in November to shoot a mini-multimedia piece. He promises to share it when it's all done! ✳ **Lauren Ferstandig** is living in London now where she continues to work for Ares Management as part of their new European leveraged loan division. ✳ **Victor Shaio** reports, "On a typical day I find myself helping others achieve the American dream by arranging financing for people to buy homes. However, the roles have recently been reversed. After closing on my first apartment in NYC and doing a gut renovation, I am finally moved in. Whether you are in search of financing yourself or want to grab a drink, look me up if you are in the area. A special shout out to **Andrew du Pont**—we are all very proud of you for your most recent accomplishments. Congratulations to **Scott Goldman** and **John Goldsmith** on your recent weddings." ✳ **Matt** and **Leslie Fox Arnould** have moved from Boston to Chicago where they are both attending Northwestern Univ. School of Law. They enjoy the occasional get-together with **Kelsey Doub** and **Dan Goldman**, who are students at the Kellogg School of Management. Kelsey reports that she often sees **Ellen Rodman** and Chris Ashley '00, who also are students in their first year at Kellogg. ✳ We have several weddings to report on: **Zach Bourque** was married on September 23 to Megan Moynihan, a graduate of Univ. of Virginia, at St. Cecilia Church in Boston, Mass. A reception was held afterwards at the Harvard Club. A number of 2001 Middlebury alums attended, including **Ethan Barron**, **John Batalis**, **Larry Curran**, **Robb Dahir**, **Amie Fernandez**, **Ryan Hilley**, **Ben Johns**, **Brandon Klein**, **Melissa Mahoney**, **Chad Malone**, **Paul Krezanoski**, **Kate Collins-Manetti**, **Tejas Parikh**, **Andrew Shogan**, **Brendan Williams**, and **Phill Wood-Smith**. Immediately following the wedding, the couple took a trip to Vermont and returned to their home in Brookline, Mass. They were planning to honeymoon in Thailand in December. ✳ Also on September 23, **Victoria Jennings** and Lt. Robert Diamond were married in Manhattan. Tory is an operations director at Macy's in Manhattan and her new husband is a surface warfare officer in the Navy. He is assigned as a liaison to the House of Representatives in the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs in Washington. ✳ **Cristina Warren** and Richard LaRock were married on July 29 in Boston, Mass. The wedding was celebrated with family and friends at St. Cecilia Church and the reception was held on the grounds of the historic Gore Estate. In attendance were **Carolyn Wilsey**, **Lisa Stifler**, **Jon Chesebro**, Lara DuMond '00, and **Brian Guercio**. Cristina and Rich are now living in Washington, D.C. ✳ Dr. **Jessie Reynolds** has become the first Central Maine Family Residency Program participant to enter the rural residency track at Rumford Hospital. This track was established to give doctors who want to practice in rural settings a chance to discover what that practice is like. Jessie graduated from the Indiana Univ. School of Medicine in 2005.
—Class Secretaries: *Leslie Fox Arnould (lesliefox01 @alumni.middlebury.edu); and Michael Hartt (hartt @alumni.middlebury.edu).*

02 REUNION CLASS

On July 8, **Jessica Monroe** and William Vaughan '01 were married in Mead Chapel at Middlebury. Jessica is the seventh grade science teacher at Poly Prep Country Day School in Brooklyn, N.Y. She earned her master's degree in science education from NYU. Will is a paramedic for the emergency medical services department of the Jersey City Medical Center and is an emergency management consultant. ✷ **Tripp Donelan** reports that things are good with him in northern California. He's working at a winery doing wine work and sales and it's not a bad gig. He gets down to San Francisco to see a few Middlebury folks, like **Mike Hacker**, Charlie Leonard '03, **Dana Chapin**, **Josh Gladding**, and **Johnny Boynton** to name a few. ✷ **Scott Roberts** was recently awarded a Veterinary Medical Doctorate degree from UPenn where he also completed the Vet Medicine Business Program under the auspices of the Wharton School. Scott was inducted into Phi Zeta, the National Honor Society of Veterinary Medicine, and was published with research. He has accepted a one-year internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the Univ. of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center. ✷ On August 20, 2005, **Julie Palombo** was married to Greg Wallace in Norwood, Mass. After the wedding, Greg and Julie moved to the Back Bay in Boston where Greg works as an accountant for PricewaterhouseCoopers and Julie works for a life sciences consulting firm called Back Bay Strategies. They love living in the city with their dog Bailey. ✷ Montana Outdoor and Science School recently announced that **Heather Beal** was stepping into the newly created position of program coordinator. Heather has been teaching at MOSS for three years and her new duties include overseeing the Ways of the West outreach program, after-school programs, and adult programs. ✷ **Gabe Epperson** is putting his environmental studies background to good use. Having returned to Salt Lake City, he works for Envision Utah, a unique public-private nonprofit that promotes "quality growth" through a collaborative, grassroots planning process. Gabe is a project planner, working directly with cities to design and implement a planning process for such things as affordable housing, multimodal transportation systems, preservation of critical lands, etc. Gabe is also finishing a master's in public administration at the Univ. of Utah. He was back on campus this fall to be the alumni speaker for the Howard E. Woodin Colloquium Series.

—Class Secretaries: *Anne Alfano (aalfano2000@yahoo.com); and Stephen Messinger (s.messing@gmail.com).*

03

Amy Peterson and Rob Sherlock were married on August 19 at the Culinary Institute of America, which Rob graduated from in 2001. A Catholic mass in Amy's hometown of Cold Spring, N.Y., was followed by a small, 70-guest reception. The couple met when they sat next to each other on a plane to Italy. Amy was en route to study abroad in Ferrara, while Rob was an executive chef just north of Venice. ✷ **Alison Mickey** recently returned from a two-year Peace Corps assignment in Mauritania, West Africa, and she is looking forward to beginning a master's program at LSE's (London) School of Oriental and African Studies. ✷ In October, **Daniela Salaverry** and **Alexandra Wang** were on campus to participate in an International Studies Colloquium entitled "Environmental Issues and Actions in China Today." Daniela is a China program associate for Pacific Environment and Alexandra is a program associate for the China Sustainable Energy Program for the Energy Foundation. Also on the panel were Lila Buckley '04 and Elisabeth Grinspoon '90. ✷ As part of a book tour this fall promoting *Arabic for Dummies*, **Amine Bouchentouf** had a book signing in October sponsored by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco and held at American Univ. Amine was enjoying the tour and liked meeting different people from different backgrounds. He found there is a huge interest in America regarding Arabic language study. ✷ This past summer, **Ariella Neville** joined the sales staff of Prudential Joy Tarbell Realty in North Conway, N.H. She was previously a real estate agent for Prudential Arizona Properties before moving back home to the Mt. Washington Valley. ✷ **Betsy Dawson Drake** is still teaching middle school language arts and reading at St. Adalbert's School in South Bend, Ind. This past summer she enrolled in the Alliance for Catholic Education's Teachers of English as a New Language program at the Univ. of Notre Dame. The program is designed to help teachers learn the most effective ways of teaching to students who don't speak English as their primary language. Almost 70 percent of Betsy's students are from Spanish-speaking families. ✷ Several classmates have been involved in the political arena lately. **Andrew Savage** kept busy as the campaign communications director for Vermont candidate Peter Welch who won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. In December, Welch announced he was appointing Andrew his communications director in Washington, D.C. Andrew also co-authored "Local Environmental Groups and the Creation of Social Capital: Evidence from Vermont," in *Society and Natural Resources*. ✷ In Ohio, **Ben LaBolt** was the communications director for Sherrod Brown's successful campaign for the U.S. Senate. Ben was up against Kevin King '02, who was working for Senator DeWine. ✷ **Jamie McInerney** also worked for Sherrod Brown at one time, but ended up as a legislative aide for Rep. Ellen Tauscher of California. His plan was to take the LSAT and possibly go to law school at some point but he says he's keeping his mind open to other possibilities.

—Class Secretaries: *Meagan Dodge (mdodge@alumni.middlebury.edu); and Ulises Zanello (uzanello@alumni.middlebury.edu).*

04

Claire Wyckoff's doing stand-up comedy in New York now. You can catch her at Stand-Up NY and the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre. ✷ **Emilie Trice** left her position at Gagosian Gallery in Chelsea, N.Y., and has since moved to Berlin, Germany, to open a new branch of the contemporary art gallery Goff+Rosenthal, as associate director. ✷ **Victoria Baptiste** sent in this sad news: "It is with profound sadness that I relate the news of my mother's death on August 27 after a very courageous battle with cancer. She (Barbara G. Baptiste, age 54, of So. Burlington, Vt.) died peacefully at home surrounded by friends and family." The class sends its sympathy to Vicky and her family. ✷ In political news, the staff of Vermont candidate Peter Welch included **Chesley Thurber** who was his legislative assistant in the State House. Peter Welch won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Not so successful was the candidate **Chris Shields** worked for, Lois Murphy. Chris has returned to his position as communications director for California Rep. Lynn Woolsey. ✷ **Daniel Koppel** and **Mary Montgomery** were married on a very sunny August 5 at Sebasco Harbor Resort in Maine. Owen Strock '03 was among the ushers, and **Jess Isler** contributed a reading to the ceremony. The newlyweds now live in Allston, Mass., while Mary attends the Boston Univ. School of Music pursuing a graduate degree in composition, and Daniel is the music director at the United Church of Christ in Abington.

—Class Secretaries: *Julia Henwood (jhenwood@alumni.middlebury.edu); and Athenia (Tina) Fischer (princess1328@yahoo.com).*

05

Dena Simmons arrived back in the U.S. from the Dominican Republic in June and immediately began at Teach for America Summer Institute. As part of her training, she taught sixth grade math to a class of 12 boys in the Bronx, near where she used to live. Now she's teaching sixth grade general education in the South Bronx. ✷ **Nicole Grohoski** continued her outdoor adventures last spring with a 740-mile canoe trip along the Northern Forest Canoe Trail which officially opened June 3. Once a well-traveled Native American trading route that runs from New York to Maine, Nicole and her fellow paddlers were the first to officially travel the trail. Nicole returned to Midd in the fall to take up an instructor's position in the GIS mapping program. ✷ In Boston, **Allison Williams** worked with middle school boys last year through the SCORES program. SCORES provides an out-of-school-time soccer and academic program for inner-city children and, as a representative, Alli was teaching journalism at Edison Middle School in Brighton. Part of a yearlong service project, Alli was employed through the Massachusetts Promise Fellowship of Americorps. ✷ **Jeff King** and **Dave Lindholm** spent last summer in L.A. together—Jeff was working for film companies and Dave was working for Chivas USA, a professional soccer team. The two of them are now working at boarding schools in the Berkshires. Jeff is at Millbrook School (N.Y.) and Dave is starting his second year at Salisbury School (Conn.) where he's teaching English and Spanish and is the head soccer coach. While they were in L.A., they spent a lot of time with **Jen Kim**, as well as Cassidy Freeman '04 and Dan DiTomasso '06, and they saw Sara Stranovsky '04 in Boulder on the drive out and drive back. ✷ **Matt Christ** had some old-fashioned college times with **Dave Irwin**, **Taylor Davis**, **Adam Sinoway**, **Colby Hewitt**, **Danny Greenstein**, and **Katie O'Connor**, at **Lindsey Whitton**'s new family home in Wilton, Conn. Taylor managed to take home the Beirut crown, beating various Middlebury alums, including John Whitton '78 (I believe the game is still under protest). Danny is debating between a career in online poker and bond sales. ✷ **Max Jones** is teaching at Hebron Academy in Maine with two other alums, Jamie Fey '06 and Liz Yale-Loehr '06. He's coaching soccer, skiing, and tennis there as well. Max took a summer journey to India for a month, then Sri Lanka for a week, and finally Thailand for about a month. It was awesome! He got to do a lot of surfing and rock climbing in some of the most beautiful places he's ever been! ✷ After spending the summer working on a legal research project, **Brian Vito** began his second year of law school at Harvard in September. ✷ **Eric Blacher** is in his first semester towards earning his combined medical and public health degree at St. George's Univ. School of Medicine. ✷ **Josh Axelrod** recently moved to Portland, Ore., where he is working for the Reed College development office. He reports

that the Midd network is surprisingly vigorous out that way and gives a hearty recommendation for looking toward Portland. ✳ **Jasmin Johnson** moved from Washington, D.C. (where she taught high school English at Georgetown Day School) to Middlebury, where she is now a CRA with Wonnacott Commons. ✳ **Lydia Beaudrot** just finished up a year working as a field assistant on a monkey project in Costa Rica. In September, she moved to Boston to start work as a research assistant in the anthropology department at Harvard. ✳ **Emily Owen** is working this year in Contulmo, Chile, developing a conservation education program for landowners, putting to use her Spanish and environmental conservation degree. Funded by a grant from The Wild Gift, an Idaho organization that supports wilderness preservation projects, Emily has until September 2007 to complete her project. ✳ **Jake Nicholson** just completed a year of teaching in Thailand and a summer of leading teen tours in France and Italy, and now he's back in Middlebury doing his student teaching at Middlebury Union High School. He's having a blast teaching English and theater. He spent a weekend in September partying with **Jason Lockhart** during one of his frequent visits to campus. Jason spent time in Nova Scotia with the New York Islanders, writing all the online articles for the team. ✳ **Ali Beck** has been working at *Martha Stewart Living* since last fall, keeping VERY busy with daily tasks and photo shoots. She's been a hand model—and her family's yard and yellow lab were used in an upcoming story for spring! ✳ **Trang Nguyen** is living in the East Village and loving it. It's her second year at NERA where work is stressful, but enjoyable. She bumps into Geoff Dillon '06 in the hallway from time to time; he started there this past July. ✳ **Lindsay Hallett**, **Lauren Joseph**, and **Emily Donnan** flew down to D.C. to visit **Andrea Schwartz** and **Diana Kassen** in their new apartment in Georgetown, which was wonderful. Emily's sister, Elizabeth Donnan Kintz '02, got married in Chatham, Mass., on September 16 and there were lots of Midd friends spanning the generations from the class of 1952 to the class of 2005! ✳ After attending the Italian School at Middlebury last summer, **Sophia Walter** moved to London to begin an M.A. program at the Courtauld Institute of Art. Since being there, she has seen **Chris Hornig**, who just completed his M.A. in archaeology. ✳ **Sakai Troxell** reports, "I switched to a new job and am now a college counselor at Prep for Prep, a not-for-profit educational organization in NYC that I attended. Prep for Prep seeks out high-achieving students from underrepresented groups and provides academic and leadership training that leads to private school placement and scholarships. I'm also working closely with Middlebury, helping their efforts to increase diverse recruitment and matriculation to the College. In the future, I will be applying to grad school for my master's in education." ✳ **Will McConathy** was on campus in November to participate in the D.K. Smith Forum, "Fuel or Food: Dealing with the Global Energy Crisis." Will, president of Parthenon Resources LLC, was one of the panelists. ✳ **Megan Hutchin** joined the faculty of Perkiomen School this past fall as a ninth-grade English and ESL teacher. ✳ After graduation, **Nicholas Colacchio** worked for six months in Botswana and Zimbabwe for Grassroot Soccer, a nonprofit organization that involves the international soccer community in its quest to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. He now works as a program manager for Grassroot Soccer in White River Junction, Vt., recruiting high school students to raise youth awareness about HIV/AIDS.

—Class Secretaries: *Martha Dutton (martha.dutton@gmail.com); and Dena Simmons (dena.simmons@gmail.com).*

06

Secretary Van Wagenen reports: Well, the class of 2006 is certainly spread out just a few months after graduation, but there are still some hubs. First, the New Yorkers: **Jess Murray** and **Elizabeth DiCioccio** are working together at Merrill Lynch. ✳ **Steve Ratpojanakul** works for Sothebys in their Web department in a job they created for him. ✳ Also at Sothebys and working long hours are **Cassity Miller** and **Caroline Brewer**. Cassity lives directly across the street from roommates **Jess Van Wagenen** and **Allie Green**; Allie started culinary school at Institute of Culinary Education and says it's "awesome." ✳ Also in the West Village is **Lindsay Russell**, who works with Lehman Bros and is almost a slave to the company-issued Blackberry (as are many Midd New Yorkers). ✳ **Mike Ratpojanakul** is enjoying life at Goldman Sachs and gets a kick out of giving out his business cards. ✳ **Clark Smith** is excelling at his work on the business side of a software company, and he lives on the Upper East Side with **Luke Hammock**, **Pete Faroni**, and **Geoff Dillon**. ✳ **CC Ragan** spent the summer "gallivanting around Italy and Greece before starting at the law firm Davis Polk, and Wardwell." CC reports that **Fran Filippelli** attended a Columbia Univ. publishing course this summer before starting her job at Routledge. ✳ **Jamie Wong** is working for the PR firm De Vries. ✳ **Rob Hillas** and **Jeff Boyink** live together in Long Island City but come in to Manhattan frequently. All the New Yorkers are enjoying the new nightlife with birthday celebrations and frequent housewarming parties. ✳ Moving on to Washington, D.C.: **Elise Burditt** started work as an assistant for Senator Leahy from Vermont and lives in the same building as **Elena Kennedy**, who is doing research. Both live with friends from Davidson. Elise spent the summer in Burlington, Vt., with **Calvin Garner**, **Kelly Boyle**, **Jess Hallett**, **Grace Kronenberg**, and **Pete Wolkowski**. Calvin spent the summer and fall working on the campaign of Peter Welch, while Grace continued her alcohol research with John McCardell. ✳ **Dave Coriell** also worked on a campaign this summer and fall with Rich Tarrant in Burlington. ✳ Kelly Boyle is currently living in Providence, R.I., working for Brown Univ. doing research on alcohol use, and **Darryl Etter**, also in Rhode Island, is a clinical research assistant at Rhode Island Hospital, studying sleep disorders and ADHD. Darryl and **Colin Johnson**, **Johnny Stewart**, and **Mike Emery** met up at Mike's house in New Jersey as a last hurrah before Johnny moves to Chicago, Colin heads off to Italy for his master's in Italian, and Mike heads to Vietnam, where he plans to teach English. ✳ **Lelia Yerxa** is teaching English in Moscow and she reports being happy to be back in Russia. She enjoys her roommates, who call her "Susan" because they can't pronounce her name, and likes the people she's working with. ✳ **Jamie Fey** and **Tara Micherone** were both in Middlebury this summer and are now teachers. Jamie is a dorm parent, hockey coach, and English teacher at Hebron Academy in Maine, and Tara is teaching at an elementary school near Vergennes. ✳ **Rachel Durfee** spent the summer adventuring in Costa Rica leading a Putney Community Service trip, and then spent a month traveling in the rainforests and beaches. She is now in Boston working for the educational company EF. ✳ Secretary Arscott reports on the Boston crowd: **Tris Arscott** and **Frankie Powell** are living in South Boston and both working at Mass General Hospital (MGH). Tris is part of a team developing vaccine vectors for HIV and the flu, and Frankie, aside from research in endocrinology, is getting his master's in public health at Boston Univ. ✳ **Julie Gross**, who works for Harvard Univ. supporting frontline fund-raisers in the development office, is living in Davis Square in Somerville with six other Midd Kids: **Adam Swick**, **Hannah Delong**, **Anna Marks**, **Sarah Radosevich**, **Ben Bruno**, and **Kirsten Nagel**. Check this out—they were all in Pearsons sophomore year and now live on Pearson Ave.! Ben and Sarah are working at an immigration law firm, Chin & Curtis (Fran Chin '69 is a Midd alum), in downtown Boston as legal assistants. Hannah is working in the psychiatry department at MGH. Kirsten is a mental health specialist on a pediatric psychiatric unit at Franciscan Hospital for Children in Brighton, Mass., and is a nanny two days a week as well as an assistant coach for her own high school's cross-country team. Anna is doing an "Americorps Massachusetts Promise Fellowship this year, working for Hostelling International to start a new Cultural Kitchen after-school program in six Boston public schools. The program is Hostelling's youth outreach program to promote cultural education and awareness through cooking and food. So basically kids make me ethnic food after school—what a job!" ✳ **Elise Beeger** is doing OCD research at MGH and is a member of the Cambridge Masters Swim Club. She is living in Central Square with **Becca Kaufman** (psychiatry research at MGH), **Meg Guffin** (research analyst at McKinsey), Nina Robinson '05, and **Molly Cable**. ✳ **Tyler Williams** is working at the Boston Federal Reserve as a research assistant in economics and is living in Davis Square with a friend from high school. He has recently joined the Boston Rugby Club! ✳ **Mike Philbin** is working as an environmental scientist for Coneco Engineers & Scientists—an environmental consulting firm that was based out of Bridgewater but relocated to Lowell mid-October. He is living in Central Square in Cambridge with Keith Case '05 and **Jon Larson**, who's working at the Boston Fed. ✳ **Kim Hansen** and **Courtney Swanda** share an apartment in Cambridge in Harvard Square. Courtney is the assistant manager at Origins, Estée Lauder Company, in Harvard Square and Kim is a mutual fund accountant at State Street. They look forward to bumping into more Midd alums in the area! ✳ **Rachel Winter** started medical school at Tufts University in Boston and really likes it so far. Her new e-mail is rachel.winter@tufts.edu. ✳ **Stephen Swank** is doing molecular cancer research at Brigham and Women's Hospital and living in Cambridge near Inman Square with Sam Stevenson '05, Claire Johnson '05, **Emilia Sibley**, and **Pat Phillips**. Stephen says, "Midd Kids are welcome anytime."

—Class Secretaries: *Tristram Arscott (warscott@alumni.middlebury.edu); and Jess Van Wagenen (jvanwagenen@gmail.com).*

In memoriam

Robert T. Stafford '35

August 8, 1913–December 23, 2006

Senator Robert T. Stafford's career in public service makes him an exemplar of what Tom Brokaw has called the greatest generation of Americans. Raised in Rutland, Stafford traveled north to attend Middlebury College. He played tackle on the football team and met his future wife, Helen Kelley '38, while at Middlebury. After he received his law degree from Boston University, he and Ms. Kelley married in 1938 and returned to Rutland to start their family and his political career.

His election as Rutland City prosecutor initiated a remarkable record of service and electoral success—Stafford never lost an election during his 50 years in political life. During World War II, he joined the Navy and rose to lieutenant colonel. Following the war, he returned to Rutland and was elected state's attorney for Rutland County. When the Korean War began, he returned to the Navy for two more years of service. His election in 1954 as attorney general began an extraordinary eight-year electoral run. In four consecutive statewide elections, Stafford was elected to four different offices: attorney general (1955-1957), lieutenant governor (1957-1959), governor (1959-1961), and U.S. representative (1961-1971). After service for a decade in the House of Representatives, Stafford was appointed U.S. senator following the death of Senator Winston Prouty. He was elected senator in 1972, 1976, and 1982.

During his career in the Senate, Stafford was best known for his commitment to higher education and the environment. He was also nationally known as being a man of great civility and integrity. For college students across the nation, Stafford's name is in common usage. In honor of his support of government aid programs, Congress named the national guaranteed student loan program after him in 1988. Over 14 million students received Stafford loans in 2006. In the environmental arena, Stafford played a major role in bringing the legislative process to its successful conclusion for the Superfund law in 1980. He then took over as chair of the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works (1981-1987). As chair, he guided the process through major amendments to the Superfund law, including the innovative Toxic Release Inventory program, and to the Safe Drinking Water Act. In his role as chair, he also helped block efforts by anti-regulatory conservatives to roll back environmental laws passed in the 1960s and 1970s.

Closer to home, Stafford joined Senator Patrick Leahy and Representative Jim Jeffords in guiding through Congress the Vermont Wilderness Act, which protected over 40,000 acres of the Green Mountain National Forest as wilderness—including the Bread Loaf Wilderness adjacent to the Bread Loaf campus—as well as creating the Robert T. Stafford White Rocks National Recreation Area. Stafford retired from the Senate in 1989 and returned to Vermont. He died in his native Rutland after a lengthy illness. Survivors include wife Helen; daughters Lynn, Susan, Barbara, and Dinah; and five grandchildren.

—Christopher McGrory Klyza,
Stafford Professor of Public Policy,
Political Science, and Environmental Studies

Robert Theodore Stafford

Place of Birth	Rutland, Vermont
Date of Birth	August 8, 1913
College	Middlebury College, 1935
Law School	Boston University School of Law, 1938
Rutland County Prosecuting Attorney	1938-1942
United States Navy, Lieutenant Commander	1942-1947
Rutland County State's Attorney	1947-1951
United States Navy	1951-1953
Vermont Deputy Attorney General	1953-1955
Vermont Attorney General	1955-1957
Vermont Lieutenant Governor	1957-1959
Governor of Vermont	1959-1960
U.S. Congressman	1960-1971
U.S. Senator	1971-1989

Did You Know?

Stafford's name is attached to both a federal law and a federal program: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and the Robert T. Stafford Student Loan program

Stafford fought in two wars:
World War II and the Korean War

Stafford was never defeated when running for elected office

29 **Elizabeth G. Chapin**, 99, of Cornish, N.H., on September 6, 2006. With a Middlebury M.A. in French (1938), she taught French for 30 years. Longtime residents of Greensboro, Vt., she and husband George H. Chapin received the 1991 Sister Bea Memorial Award for their volunteer work with prisoners at the correctional facilities in Windsor and Rutland, Vt. Predeceased by her husband in 2002, she leaves stepson George III, daughter Priscilla Williams, and four grandchildren.

31 **Ruth Atwood Muller**, 97, of Harvard, Mass., on October 31, 2006. With a degree in library science (Simmons College, 1933), she was a librarian in Harvard for many years. She leaves her husband of 59 years, Erhart Muller. She was predeceased by former husband Walter S. B. Tate '30.

34 **Nelson Beebe**, 92, of Port Henry, N.Y., on August 14, 2006. A veteran of World War II, he served in the Army Air Corps as a meteorologist in the Pacific. With a master's from SUNY Albany, he taught math and science and served as principal of the high schools in Port Henry and Moriah, N.Y., retiring in 1975. Predeceased by brother Allison Beebe '38 in 2001, he leaves wife Myrtle (Searles), daughter Evelyn Homer, and sons Paul and Alan. Middlebury survivors include nephews Stephen G. Beebe '65 (wife Odiorne Woodman Beebe '65) and David C. Beebe '67 (wife Lynn Markham Beebe '69).

G. Randolph Erskine, 93, of Wallingford, Conn., on August 8, 2006. A 1937 graduate of Yale Law School, he served as an officer in the Connecticut Office of Price Administration during World War II. While practicing, he served as prosecutor of the Wallingford Court and chair of the criminal law section, State Bar Association of Connecticut. A past president of the Middlebury College Alumni Association, he was the recipient of an Alumni Plaque in 1968. The author of *Mastering the Art of Fly Tying* (McGraw-Hill), he was also an active photographer. Survivors include wife Madeline (Faeth); daughter Roxanne; sons Peter, James, and Christopher; nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

36 **Roxana Lewis Blackmore**, 91, of Rotterdam, N.Y., on September 20, 2006. With a Middlebury M.A. in French (1940), she had a long career as a French teacher at South Colonie High School in Albany, N.Y., retiring in 1974. Predeceased by husband William A. Blackmore, she leaves daughter Betsy Weatherhead, son John Blackmore, and two granddaughters.

Anna Mayo, 92, of South Burlington, Vt., on August 28, 2006. She studied medical social work at the Univ. of Chicago and worked at Children's Hospital in Boston. From 1953 until her retirement in 1976, she was a medical social work consultant in the Vermont Department of Health. Survivors include sister Deborah Mayo Beattie '41 and niece Margaret Beattie Page '72. Deceased Middlebury relatives include mother Lora Stickney Mayo (class of 1905), aunt Ida Stickney Barber (class of 1907), cousin Jane Barber Leinwohl '41, and sister-in-law Lorette Lapolice Mayo '48.

37 **Robert W. Robinson**, 92, of Largo, Fla., on August 13, 2006. With a master's from SUNY Albany (1947), he had a 33-year career at Roeliff Jansen School in Hillsdale, N.Y., as a teacher, counselor, coach, and high school administrator. In Hillsdale, he was a life member of the volunteer fire company. Predeceased by first wife Sarah (O'Hara), he married Ruth van Sickle Dyer '37 in 1994. Besides his wife, he leaves sons Harry, Robert, and Thomas; daughters Marilyn Woolston and Catherine Ibert; 11 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

38 **Dorothy Simonds Stearns**, 90, of Middlebury and Barre, Vt., on October 4, 2006. A bookkeeper for many years with Simonds Texaco, she was active in the Middlebury Congregational Church and many town organizations. Predeceased by husband Norman Stearns '41 in 1978, she leaves daughters Virginia Ashenfelter and Bonnie Stearns.

39 **Elaine Brown Baker**, 89, of Waterbury, Vt., on October 2, 2006. Predeceased by husband Newton Baker in 2005, she leaves daughters Diane Harper, Brenda Baker, and Martha Fiske; sons Philip, Donald, and Newton B. Baker '64; 12 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include cousins Ruth Mary Gorham Rohde '44 and Judith Brown Hodgman '67, and sister-in-law Jeannette Baker Washburn '38. Deceased Middlebury relatives include uncle Marcus F. Gorham '12 and cousin Leonard H. Brown '41.

Catherine Andrus Fessenden, 89, of Ashfield, Mass., on October 22, 2006. A graduate of Oberlin College, she was an accomplished photographer and writer. She traveled the world with her husband, Russell Fessenden, a Foreign Service Officer, who preceded her in death in 2001. She leaves daughters Helen Snyder, Anna Fessenden, and Jean Sprague; son David; seven grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Jean Briggs Fisher, 88, of McCloud, Calif., on November 2, 2006. A professional singer, she was active in the Binghamton (N.Y.) community from 1950 until 1998. Predeceased by husband Robert W. Rafuse in 1957, she was married to George M. Fisher from 1961 to 1978. She generously "adopted" a Laotian refugee family of two parents and 11 children. Preceded in death by daughter Linda Joy Rafuse Volkert, she leaves sons Paul Rafuse and Peter Rafuse; stepson Robert W. Rafuse Jr.; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and her adopted Laotian family.

Elsie Brown Tracey, 87, of Winchester, Va., on July 25, 2006. She was employed by the General Accounting Claims Department for the federal government in Washington, D.C., prior to her marriage to William R. Tracy. Her husband died in 1975. She was also predeceased by sister Hazel Brown Stefaniak '33, brother-in-law Edward Stefaniak '34, and cousins Inez C. Cook '09 and Gladys J. Cook '16.

41 **John C. Agnew**, 84, of Milford, Mass., on July 10, 2004. A 1941 graduate of St. Lawrence Univ., he served in the Army (1942–1945), earned an S.T.B. degree from Harvard Univ. Divinity School (1954), and served as a Unitarian minister until 1995. He was a religion writer for the *Worcester Telegram & Gazette*. Survivors include wife Rosemary, daughters Judy Turgeon and Jill McIntosh, two stepsons, and three grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include cousins Marian Spaulding Ffield '54 and Amy L. Ffield '86. Predeceased Middlebury relatives include father John C. Agnew '13, aunt Mabel Agnew Spaulding '12, and great-uncle David H. Agnew, class of 1893.

Eleanor Gillett Blauvelt, 86, of Basking Ridge, N.J., on September 24, 2006. She lived in North Plainfield and in Watchung before retiring to Fellowship Village in 1996. She was a volunteer nurse's aide, a scout leader, and PTA president. Survivors include husband Henry S. Blauvelt, son Jim, daughters Laura Evans and Barbara Loizeaux, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandsons.

Barbara Warren Loftus, 87, of Oshkosh, Wis., on November 10, 2006. A 15-year Red Cross volunteer at Mercy Hospital in Oshkosh, she was active in the county medical auxiliary, the Winnebago Community Club, and the First Congregational Church of Oshkosh. Predeceased by husband Edward R. Loftus '41 in 1998, she leaves son David, daughter Lydia Anderson, a grandson, two step-grandchildren, and four step-great-grandchildren.

43 **Katherine Kurtz Hodges**, 85, of Brewster, Mass., on October 14, 2006. She worked at Columbia Univ. in NYC, and at *High Fidelity* magazine in western Massachusetts. Moving to Brewster in 1971, she became the co-publisher and then owner of *Cape Advertiser*. She received the Volunteer of the Year Award for her work with Meals on Wheels and with FISH. She recently moved to Fairfield, Iowa, to be near family. Survivors include daughter Fran Clark, son Jeffrey, and two granddaughters.

Richard James McGarry, 84, of Pittsfield, Vt., on October 26, 2006. After completing the Middlebury-M.I.T. program, he was a chemical engineer on the Manhattan Project during World War II. During his 40-year career, he worked with the Stone & Webster Corp. and the Badger Corp., a subsidiary of Raytheon. Retiring to Pittsfield in 1983, he was an avid skier and golfer, and was an active participant in community affairs. Predeceased by wife Anne (Woods) in 1991, he leaves daughters Anne Marie, Jane E. McGarry '79, and Judith H. McGarry '82; sons Richard and John; six grandchildren; and brothers John J. McGarry '45 and Frederick J. McGarry '50. Other Middlebury survivors include niece Martha McGarry Miller '73 and nephew Garfield L. Miller II '72.

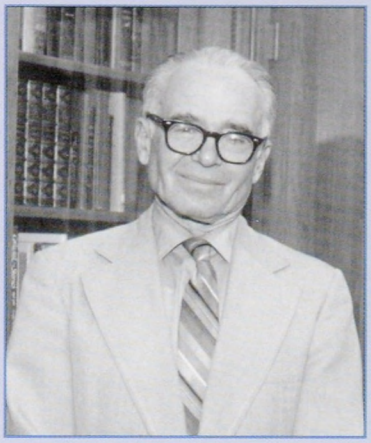
44 **William S. Stevenson**, 85, of Midlothian, Va., on November 23, 2006. A World War II fighter pilot, he served in the South Pacific. Following graduate work at Northeastern Univ., he enjoy a long career in sales and marketing management, retiring in 1990. Preceded in death by son Jeffrey and brother Robert, he leaves his wife of 62 years, Ingrid Monk Stevenson '44; sons Philip, Clifford, and Russell; daughter Connie Gottwald; daughter-in-law Nancy Stevenson; 15 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. In 1997, family members established the William S. Stevenson '44 and Ingrid Monk Stevenson '44 Scholarship Fund, with preference given to a mathematics major.

45 **Mary Hatcher Hruby**, 81, of Mount Holly, N.J., on November 18, 2006. A lifelong member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, she was a member of the Mount Holly Auxiliary to Burlington County Hospital and served on the board of the Mount Holly Children's Home.

IN MEMORIAM

David K. Smith '42

APRIL 20, 1921–NOVEMBER 22, 2006



Professor Emeritus of Economics David K. Smith '42 died on November 22, 2006. A native Vermonter, "D.K." Smith was an undergraduate economics major and a member of the Middlebury College class of 1942. Following his service in the Navy during World War II, he completed his M.B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees at Harvard. He taught briefly at Lake Forest College and Tufts University before returning to Middlebury in 1950. Thus began his 37-year career, motivating students and molding an economics department. He served as department chair for 15 years.

During the 1970s, he created a course in environmental economics that helped the College further develop its innovative and nationally recognized program in environmental studies. He was dedicated to his students and to the academic life of the College. When he retired, friends and family created the Professor David K. Smith Visiting Economic Lecture Series that assures a yearly guest lecturer or forum on some dimension of applied economics. The David K. Smith '42 Chair in Applied Economics was established in 2001 and is held by Phanindra Wunnava.

An active member of his local and state communities, David served on the Vermont Council of Economic Advisors for four Vermont governors on energy and tax issues. He was a trustee of the village of Middlebury, a consultant for Central Vermont Public Service, a musician and Vermont humorist, and an avid skier and board member of the Catamount Trail Association.

Predeceased by wife Carol Hartman Smith '43 in 2004, he leaves son David K. Smith Jr. '68; daughters Lorrie Byrom, Marcy Covey, and Kim Spensley; and nine grandchildren, and sister Jean Smith Davies '49. He was predeceased by brothers James C. Smith II '40 and Lawrence M. Smith '49.

Survivors include husband Richard J. Hruby; daughters Marie Frake, Christine Hruby, and Elizabeth Hruby Mills '84; sons Richard and Stephen; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Nancy Duffie Shuster, 82, of Troy, N.Y., on September 12, 2006. With a master's in nursing from Yale Univ. (1947), she was a nurse at Grace-New Haven Hospital and at Samaritan Hospital in Troy. She was also a librarian and teacher at St. John's Day School in Troy and she taught quilting for various groups. Predeceased by husband William W. Shuster and son Edward, she leaves daughter Barbara Huntington; sons Dale, William, Robert, and Charles; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

49 **Janet C. Curry**, 78, of Woodridge, N.J., on October 3, 2006. During her 30-year career at Lever Brothers Research Center, she progressed from research bacteriologist to senior group leader. She was instrumental in establishing microbiological safety and stability guidelines for cosmetic manufacturers. Her work as chair of the microbiology committee of the Toiletries, Fragrance and Cosmetics Association is recognized worldwide. After retiring, she was a consultant microbiologist and served as president of MQC, Inc. (Microbiological Quality Control). The recipient of the 1992 Microbiologist Award, she held three patents and was the author of numerous publications. At Middlebury she established an award and a research fellowship for women doing outstanding work in biology, biochemistry, or molecular biology. Survivors include sister Ann Curry Munier '46 and nephew Robert S. Munier '75.

Patricia Perkins Flagg, 79, of Hancock, Maine, on September 8, 2006. In NYC, she modeled for the John Roberts Powers Agency and performed in television programs, including the *Jackie Gleason Show*. In Washington, D.C., she wrote, photographed, and recorded educational filmstrips. Moving to Maine in the 1970s, she produced community service programs for WDEA radio and wrote news stories and feature articles for several Maine newspapers. In 1999, Down East Books published her book, *The Disappearance of Amy Cave: A True Account of Murder and Justice on the Maine Coast*. She was predeceased by her father, Middlebury English Professor Perley C. Perkins, and by brother Stanwood L. Perkins '49. Survivors include daughters Cheryl River Maitland '75 and Tina Flagg; sister-in-law Patricia McCabe Perkins '48; and brother Eric C. Perkins '62.

Charles A. James, 84, of Iloilo, Philippines, on November 10, 2006. A three-year Navy veteran, he earned an LL.B. degree from Yale in 1952. For 10 years he practiced law in Sacramento and Stockton, Calif., where he also served as an area president of the NAACP. In 1961 he was appointed assistant attorney general for the state of California and played a significant role in the enactment of truth in lending legislation in California. In 1964 he became the deputy director and, later, director of the Peace Corps in Ghana and Uganda, respectively. From 1968 to 1974, he directed programs for the Agency for International Development in Thailand, Vietnam, Kenya, and Washington, D.C. He was the deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs in Washington, D.C., from 1974 to 1976, when President Gerald Ford nominated him ambassador to the Republic of Niger. He returned to Middlebury in 1977 to receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. Survivors include daughter Karen Jaenike; sons Peter, Dennis, and Donald; and seven grandchildren.

Harold W. Richardson, 81, of South Windsor, Conn., on September 19, 2006. He spent four months in a POW camp during his World War II service. A 1952 graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, he served Connecticut Congregational churches in Pomfret, Thomaston, Naugatuck, and South Windsor, during his 40-year career as a minister. He enjoyed sailing, tennis, golf, skiing, and bridge. Predeceased by wife Claire (Hamilton) in 2003, he leaves companion Jeannie Sabia; sons Gary, Link '77, and Kip; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson. He was predeceased by brother Vance A. Richardson '43 in 2004.

50 **John H. Burckes**, 81, of Brandon, Vt., on November 13, 2006. By the age of 20, he had flown 23 B-29 "Pathfinder" missions during World War II, for which he received the Distinguished Flying Cross. With a master's from Boston Univ. (1959), he taught history at Lawrence Academy (Groton, Mass.), where he was also a hockey, ski, and golf coach. He was recently honored with the alumni faculty appreciation award for outstanding dedication to students. Survivors include wife Sandy (Phillips), daughters Laurie and Mardie, eight grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and brother Ralph S. Burckes '51. He was predeceased by his former wife, Margaret Curtis Burckes '48.

John B. Henty, 80, of Charleston, S.C., on September 18, 2006. A World War II Army veteran, he worked in human resources with General Electric Corp., retiring in 1980. He was an active member of the Unitarian Universalist Church, an avid golfer, and an elementary school tutor. Survivors include wife Julia Lamson-Scribner, sons Bradford and Keith, daughter Molly Henty, and one grandchild. He is also survived by his former wife, Mary Kahler Hench '51.

James F. Newman, 77, of Hilton Head Island, S.C., on August 6, 2006. He served in the Army during the Korean War and was a pitcher in the minor league system for several years. He taught and coached at Trinity-Pawling School, was director of admissions at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, was personnel director at Kraft Foods in Illinois, and retired from Premark International in 1990. He

was active in Habitat for Humanity, Second Helpings, and Alzheimer's Respite and Resource. He leaves wife Elizabeth Huey Newman '51, daughters Gail Greenwald and Kate Prochnow, and three grandchildren. Middlebury survivors include brother-in-law William R. Huey Jr. '52, sister-in-law Jean Huey Smolens '48, and niece Rebecca Gustafson Brown '75.

52 **Ronald P. Prinn**, 76, of Claremont, N.H., on October 24, 2006. After Army service during the Korean War, he earned an M.A. (Harvard, 1955) and an M.Div. (Episcopal Theological School, 1959). Ordained an Episcopal priest in 1959, he served parishes in Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire for 36 years, most recently in Salem, N.H. He also taught mathematics in high schools and colleges for 13 years. Survivors include wife Barbara Pike Prinn '51; children Stephen, Salli Skerry, Andrew, Margaret, and Douglas; six of his seven foster children; and five grandchildren, in addition to great-grandchildren and foster grandchildren.

55 **John E. Zabriskie**, 72, of Wilmington, N.C., on August 17, 2006. With an LL.B. from George Washington Univ. Law School (1958), he practiced law for 25 years in the northern Virginia area. He retired to Flat Rock and recently relocated to Wilmington. Survivors include wife Anne Bumstead Zabriskie '54, son John Jr., daughters Nancy McGrath and Susan Wadsworth, and seven grandchildren.

56 **Mark W. Hopkins**, 75, of Washington, D.C., on September 25, 2006. After service in the Air Force during the Korean War, he earned an M.A. in journalism (Univ. of Wis., 1958), and worked for the *Milwaukee Journal*. Joining the Voice of America in 1971, he served as correspondent and/or bureau chief in Belgrade, Munich, London, the Pentagon, Moscow, and Beijing, retiring to Washington, D.C., in 1996. The author of several books and many articles, he received an Overseas Press Club award for his reporting of the Soviet Union. He was married to Mary Jean Doherty Hopkins from 1955 to 1983 and had four children. He married Elizabeth Davies in 1988. Besides his wife, he leaves sons Jon and Paul '82, daughters Elizabeth Hopkins '81 and Amy Silver; and 10 grandchildren.

57 **Richard C. Jones**, 71, of Washington, D.C., on June 16, 2006. He leaves two sisters, two nephews, and one niece.

Jean Lobban Thompson, 71, of New Hampton, N.H., on August 25, 2006. Instrumental in founding the Center for Environmental Information (CEI) in Webster, N.Y., she also co-founded the Outdoor Biology Instructional Strategies Resource Center, a joint project for the Girl Scouts and CEI. In 1987, she was appointed to the New York State Barge Canal Planning and Development Board by then Governor Mario Cuomo. She co-founded the Webster Arboretum and was active in the Webster Historical Society. Retiring to New Hampton in 1988, she was active in the Newfound Lake Region Association and the New Hampton Historical Society. In 2001, the Lakes Leadership Program recognized her as an Outstanding Community Volunteer. She was a member of the Federated Garden Club for over 40 years. Predeceased by husband Robert D. Thompson in 2004, she leaves daughters Lindsay Thompson and Elizabeth Thompson Serlemitsos '86; five grandchildren; sister Sarah Lobban Decker '61; and brother Richard Lobban. Deceased Middlebury relatives include father Richard A. Lobban '29, mother Dorothy Dietz Lobban '29, grandfather James A. Lobban (class of 1898), and grandmother Sarah Scoles Lobban (class of 1899).

59 **Joel E.L. Roberts**, 69, of Centreville, Va., on July 2, 2006. He retired as a colonel from the Army in 1989 after a 30-year career. He served in the Quartermaster Corps and commanded a company, battalion, and brigade at different points in his career. His numerous assignments included tours to Vietnam, Korea, and Germany. In retirement, he was an investment adviser with Roberts Financial Enterprises, with offices in Sterling, Va. He was active in the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany since moving to Centreville in 1990. He leaves wife Virginia Aretz Roberts '59, daughters Rebecca Crawford and Kristin Roberts Asbury '86, son Joel E.L. Roberts Jr., and four grandchildren. His late mother, Georgia Lyon Roberts, graduated from Middlebury in 1930.

60 **Allyn Moorman Sullivan**, 67, of Pasadena, Calif., on September 5, 2006. A 1977 graduate of the Boalt Hall School of Law at the Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, she was a noted community activist and legal advocate for abused women in the Pasadena area through legal aid and domestic violence support groups. Her major contributions included conducting domestic violence training for local police departments, assisting in the development of mandatory treatment for convicted batterers, and educating the judiciary on domestic violence issues. She served as a research attorney for the Los Angeles County Courts, where she edited the California Legislative Report. She was also active in the League of Women Voters and the women's caucus of the California Democratic Party. Survivors include daughters Marian Sullivan and Margaret Sullivan Wise and their families.

Nancy Sharp Van Vranken, 68, of Jericho, N.Y., on September 23, 2006, after a stroke. A 1959 graduate of Mary-Hardin Baylor Univ., she attended graduate school at NYU and earned an M.A. from Columbia Univ. School of Education in 1978. After teaching at the American Museum of Natural History, she began her teaching career at St. Bernard's School in NYC. She was a founder of the Teacher's Clearinghouse for Science and Society Education and was one of only 50 American teachers chosen in the late 1980s to assist the Chinese government in modernizing its national science program. Survivors include husband J. Frederick Van Vranken Jr. '57, daughters Virginia Van Vranken Ziobro '82 and Cynthia Van Vranken Keating '85, and six grandchildren.

IN MEMORIAM

M. Kimberly Sparks

OCTOBER 2, 1930–OCTOBER 30, 2006

Professor Emeritus M. Kimberly Sparks, 76, passed away on October 30, 2006, at his home in Cornwall, Vt. During the Korean Conflict, he interrupted his undergraduate studies at Princeton to serve for nearly four years with the U.S. Air Force. Trained as an intelligence officer and language specialist, his work kindled a lifelong interest in foreign languages.

After receiving his Ph.D. in German language at Princeton, he taught there and received a Fulbright Scholarship for a year in Vienna before beginning his career at Middlebury in 1966. The first holder of the Jean Thomson Fulton Chair of Modern Languages and Literature, he was appointed Charles A. Dana Professor of German in 1969, and became an Old Dominion Foundation Professor of German in 1971.

As department chairman and, later, as chairman of the language division, Kim worked to improve and expand Middlebury's overseas language programs. During the 1980s and 1990s, he served several terms as director of the Middlebury College School in Germany. In collaboration with several of his colleagues, Kim wrote seven books, published by Harcourt Brace, on German language and German literature for the classroom.

Under the aegis of the Center for Educational Technology at Middlebury, and with the support of the Mellon Foundation, Kim wrote and produced two CD-ROMs on the history, architecture, and culture of Vienna, a labor of love completed shortly before his death.

Survivors include his wife Suzann and their three children and grandsons.

61 **Frances Blick Westerbeke**, 67, of Milton, Mass., on September 14, 2006, after a 15-year battle with breast cancer. A Milton resident since 1964, she was active in AFS, town meeting, historical society, and youth concerts at Symphony Hall for the public schools. She was a trustee at the South Shore Conservatory of Music in Hingham, where the opera studio bears her name. An expert sailor, she was a governor of the Blue Water Sailing Club. She leaves husband John H. Westerbeke Jr. '61; sons John, Robert, Douglas, and Scott '91; and six grandchildren. A sister, Barbara Blick Houlihan '58, died in 1985.

62 **Christopher Morse**, 66, of Stockbridge, Mass., on August 27, 2006. During his 30-year career in investments and finance, he held vice president positions at Integrated Resources and the March Company. He served on many civic boards and as a college interviewer. His marriage to Shawn (Baker) ended in divorce. Survivors include wife Peggy (Fegley), sons Christo and Nicholas, and two grandchildren.

66 **Anthony V. de Sugny**, 62, of Carmel Valley, Calif., on November 7, 2006. With a degree in architectural engineering from the Univ. of Colo. at Boulder (1971), he worked in accounting and private investing. A former member of the Carmel Valley Volunteer Fire Fighters, he was involved in local land use policies and the preservation of open spaces. He enjoyed the outdoors, hiking, and skiing. Survivors include sons Benjamin and Andrew and a grandchild.

87 **Elizabeth Carr Zarriello**, 41, of Anderson, Calif., on October 5, 2006, after a battle with ovarian cancer. With a Ph.D. from the California School of Professional Psychology (1994), she was a clinical psychologist with Shasta County Mental Health in Redding. Survivors include husband Richard Zarriello.

95 **Yeshi Choden Lama**, 35, of Kathmandu, Nepal, died in a tragic helicopter accident in Northeastern Nepal, along with 23 other people, including some of her colleagues at the World Wildlife Fund, the Minister of Forestry for Nepal, a USAID deputy director, and several natural resource conservationists, botanists, and scientists. After Middlebury, she completed her master's in sociology and anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. Among her many achievements, she co-authored many publications in both English and Tibetan languages. Working for the World Wildlife Federation in Nepal since 1997, she was responsible for administering, monitoring, and reporting on mountain programs and projects. She started Tibetan medicine clinics in the villages, where she educated women about family planning and basic healthcare. Her father, Bhakha Tulku Rinpoche, a high master and lineage holder in the Nyingma and Kagyu lineages of Tibetan Buddhism, spoke of his daughter: "Yeshi's death is not only a loss for our family, but also is a loss for the whole Tibetan society. Yeshi lived her life fully, a life of service to her family, her community, her culture, the environment, and the world. Her loss will be felt profoundly by all of us. But we can honor her memory by learning from the example of both her life and her death." In addition to her parents, she is survived by husband Tashi and sons Phuntsok and Thinley.

10 **Norbert K.M. Vaughn**, 18, of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., on November 14, 2006, after a difficult post-operative course at Vanderbilt Medical Center. He was an enthusiastic first-year student at Middlebury when Computed Axial Tamography scans revealed a brain tumor. Survivors include parents Lynn Myrick and Joel Vaughn, sister Emer Vaughn, and grandfather James Myrick.

LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

48 **Elizabeth Finch Boone**, 88, M.A. Spanish, of Stone Mountain, Ga., on April 8, 2006. She taught foreign language and bilingual education in Dade County, Fla., and at universities in several states and foreign countries, retiring in 1974.

50 **Shirley H. Bogs**, 87, M.A. Spanish, of Des Montes, N.M., on November 1, 2006. She taught Spanish in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Ecuador.

Elizabeth H. Ratte, 88, M.A. French, of Nashua, N.H., on August 25, 2006. A Women's Army Corps veteran of World War II, she was an interpreter for military intelligence in Cairo, Egypt. She taught French from 1940 until 1982.

51 **Sarah Francis**, 97, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on October 12, 2006. She was a teacher in Wyoming, Pa., for 45 years.

54 **Marianne Calcagni Ciotti**, 76, M.A. French, of Barre, Vt., on October 14, 2006. A high school French teacher in Connecticut, she participated in a program for the development of new teaching methods and materials, which she demonstrated in a film produced at Yale Univ. The first woman to serve as supervisor of modern foreign languages for the Vermont Department of Education (1961–1966), she taught for three summers at the Middlebury College School of French. In 1962, she was instrumental in creating the Vermont Foreign Language Association.

55 **William O. Travers**, 82, M.A. English, of Waldoboro, Maine, on October 27, 2006. A Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War, he was an English teacher and administrator for 36 years.

66 **J. Richard Guthrie**, 66, M.A. French, of Newport News, Va., on October 27, 2006. He retired in 2002 as a prof. of German and French at Christopher Newport Univ., where he created the German major and minor programs. He also taught at Wake Forest Univ., Hampton Univ., Old Dominion Univ., and William and Mary.

67 **Donald J. Edwards**, 69, M.A. Spanish, of Cheshire, Conn., on September 22, 2006. A teacher in the Hamden school system for 26 years, he retired in 1997.

68 **Jeanne Marie LaRocque**, 91, M.A. French, of West Hartford, Conn. She taught mathematics and French in New York and in Connecticut for 37 years.

69 **Susan Haws Loveall**, 60, M.A. French, of Ithaca, N.Y., on September 12, 2006. She taught French at Ithaca High School from 1972 until 2004.

Rosalie R. Parker, 89, M.A. German, of West Newton, Pa., on April 27, 2006.

76 **Beverly N. Varley**, 81, M.A. Spanish, of Woodstock, Va., on August 30, 2006. She was a teacher for 40 years.

95 **Peter D. Molan**, 64, Arabic, of Baltimore, Md., on December 28, 2005. A Middle East scholar and linguist, he taught at several universities, joined the Department of Defense as an analyst, and traveled throughout the Middle East, becoming conversant in Arabic dialects.

STAFF

Elisabeth Carlin, 90, of Middlebury, Vt., on October 11, 2006. A longtime resident of Middlebury, she worked in the placement office from 1964 until 1981. In retirement, she continued to serve the community as a volunteer at Addison County Home Health and Round Robin thrift shop. Predeceased by husband James Carlin in 2001, she leaves three children.

FRIEND OF THE COLLEGE

Jane Ryerson Wilson Rikert, 84, of Ithaca, N.Y., on December 2, 2006. A 1943 graduate of Smith College, she married Carroll Rikert Jr. and followed his career in college administration from Brown University to Middlebury College, where he was an administrator for 31 years. He retired in 1983 as treasurer emeritus. An active lifelong member of the Congregational Church, Jane volunteered in the Middlebury community and launched a highly successful annual clothing sale to benefit Smith College. She served as a member of the Vermont Governor's Education Commission and as president of the Vermont Girl Scout Council. In recognition of Carroll and Jane's exceptional service to Middlebury and their long-standing enjoyment of cross-country skiing, the College named the Bread Loaf facility The Jane and Carroll Rikert Jr. Touring Center following Carroll's retirement in 1983. In retirement in Rockport, Maine, Jane continued her volunteer work as a board member of the Merryspring Foundation, a community gardening education center. In 2000, they moved to Ithaca to be near family, but they continued to enjoy their shared pleasure of travel. Besides her husband, she leaves sons David and Jonathan, daughters Rachel Burbank and Hannah Rikert Morvan '70, eleven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

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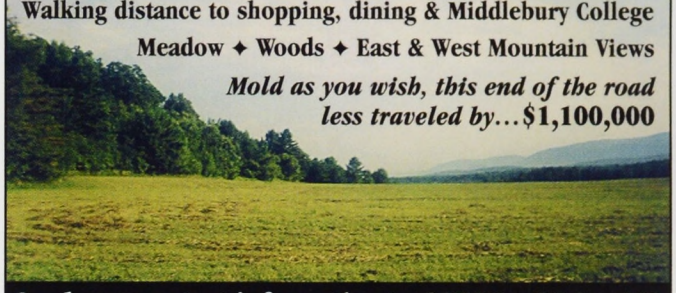

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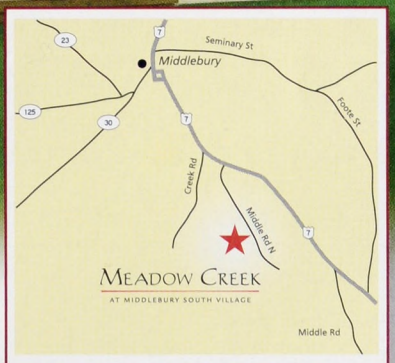

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Tracks on the Red Kelly Trail

A writer muses on a favorite pastime.

By Brett Millier

A RITUAL COMPLAINT PASSES AMONG SKIERS on the Red Kelly Trail around the College golf course that, once upon a time, groundskeepers groomed and maintained the trail for classical Nordic skiing and that because of walkers and dogs on the trail, they quit. In fact, the College did maintain the trail, but the end of that era probably had more to do with global warming and the rise of freestyle skiing than with the flow of humanity that insists on using the trail.

Winter tracks along the Red Kelly Trail will tell you a lot about that flow. For one thing, it is unceasing. No matter what the snowfall, a cascade of intricately marked boot soles, paw prints, big-foot snowshoes, stroller wheels, and running shoes crisscrosses the homemade parallels carved out and maintained by the skiers themselves. Pockmarks at intervals show the prevalence of classic poling technique, but even these are reconfigured by the giant prehistoric bird-foot angles left by freestylers. There are tracks of big dogs and little dogs, snowshoe-sculpted ovals, the geometry of boot soles, the tiny feet of squirrels and raccoons, deer tracks, and the perfectly etched toes of chickadees or jays; even, once, a bobcat. I confess I take my dogs on the trail when I ski, and they hop like rabbits to avoid bottoming out when the snow is deep—leaving oval bellyprints and vertical holes in the snowy woods. I think of this variety of tracks as evidence of democracy in action, and of the College's wise decision to share this resource.

I encounter the trail in a variety of conditions and am amazed by what and who I meet there. One sees mishaps, and the evidence of mishaps—wipeouts, struggles to get up, parents bending over a tangled child trying to bring her to her feet on her skis. The pinwheel of tracks showing a failure of nerve at the top of the steep hill behind the eleventh hole. Once I actually saw a parent on skis harnessed to a sled containing a very small child, who glided along oblivious to his father's astonishing exertion. Last winter I wondered about a set of widely spaced gouges that turned out to belong to a tall, thin college student running on his toes in sneakers on not-very-packed snow. After big storms, one finds the peculiar tracks (and the even more peculiar appearance) of snowshoe racers, fitted with special racing shoes.

A few years ago, long after the College stopped grooming the trail regularly, I went out convinced the trail would be glazed with ice and miserable to ski. But someone with a groomer had taken pity on us, breaking the ice along the whole circuit, and the skiing was terrific. It seemed to me a miracle, and I have been grateful ever since.

Nowadays, skiers make their own conditions on the trail. The first brave souls out after a snowfall carve the tracks; others follow and reinforce them. Soon a second set of ski tracks may appear, alongside a wide chain of snowshoe tracks. Then come the boot soles to trouble the tracks, and the skiing slowly deteriorates until the next storm. Rain and ice make for treacherous skiing, particularly on the trail's two nerve-testing hills. Walkers and skiers and dogs and snowshoers find a little bit of what makes Vermont great on the Red Kelly Trail, as their tracks will tell you.

Brett Millier is the Reginald L. Cook Professor of English and American Literatures at Middlebury.

Illustration by Andrea Cobb

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